Executive Leadership in Six Cities of the County of Orange

Orange County, the O.C., has a larger population than 19 States and the District of Columbia. The April 2020 population estimate shows the number of residents at 3,186,989. The county was incorporated in August 1889 and the county seat is the City of Santa Ana. In November 1776, Mission San Juan Capistrano became the first permanent European settlement in the area. There are now 34 incorporated cities in the county where avocados and citrus fruit once grew in large orchards. This issue takes a peek at the professionals who serve the cities of the first six cities in the county listed alphabetically: Aliso Viejo, Anaheim, Brea, Buena Park, Costa Mesa and Cypress.
Executive Leadership in Six Cities of the County of Orange

Aliso Viejo was the first planned community in California to plan a balance between the projected local work force and the number of projected jobs within its borders. A 900-acre business park, Pacific Park, and the town center, was expected to provide more than 22,000 jobs in order to encourage live-and-work opportunities. The Aliso Viejo Community Association (AVCA) was established to manage local parks and community open space. It was the first community-wide association of its kind in California. The city incorporated in July 2001. The 2020 estimated population is set at 52,176.

David Doyle is the City Manager and Mitzi Ortiz is the City Clerk and Director of Government Services. Ann Eifert is the Director of Financial Services and City Treasurer, and So Kim is the Community Development Director. Shaun Pelletier is the Aliso Viejo Public Works Director and City Engineer, and Lizzy Mendoza is the Recreation & Community Services Manager.

Special group sessions for sports teams, police and fire departments or other groups may be arranged.

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City Manager David Doyle, one of the good guys, is a former Assistant City Manager for the City of Diamond Bar and came to Aliso Viejo as city manager in 2013. David began his public service career in March 1992 as an Administrative Intern in Manhattan Beach. He was hired as a Management Assistant in Manhattan Beach in August 1993; became a Management Analyst in September 1994; Assistant to the City Manager in September 1995; and Deputy City Manager in January 2000. David left Manhattan Beach to accept the appointment to the Deputy City Manager position in Diamond Bar in July 2000. David was elevated to Assistant City Manager in July 2005. He was hired as the Aliso Viejo City Manager in 2013. David earned a BA from the University of California, Irvine and an MPA from California State University, Long Beach. In 2018 he received a 25-year ICMA Service Award.

So Kim joined the Aliso Viejo city staff in August 2022 as Community Development Director. She began her public service career in December 2004 as a Planning Technician for the City of Hermosa Beach, and she took a similar post with Rancho Palos Verdes in August 2005. So moved up in the Rancho Palos Verdes staff to Assistant Planner (2006-2011), Associate Planner (2011-2014), Senior Planner (2014-2017) and Deputy Director and Planning Manager (2017-2019). In September 2019, So took the Senior Principal Planner position in the City of Laguna Beach and she was promoted to Assistant Director of Community Development in April 2021. So earned a BA from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona and an MPA from California State University, Long Beach.

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Roxanne Diaz is a former member of the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF). Call RWG at No. 213-626-8484

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Anaheim has effectively transformed from wine making, orange groves and smudge pots to a beautiful new urban area. Disneyland, the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim, the NHL Anaheim Ducks and more have brought worldwide attention to the community. Anaheim has the largest population in Orange County at a 2020 figure of 346,824. The city was founded in 1857 and incorporated as the 2nd city in Los Angeles County in March 1876. Orange County broke off from L.A. County in 1889. James Vanderpool has served as the Anaheim City Manager since September 2020, and Theresa Bass is the City Clerk. Deborah Moreno is the Anaheim Finance Director and City Treasurer, and Jean Ibalio is the Deputy Finance Director. Greg Garcia is an Anaheim Assistant City Manager.

Though some are calling for his dismissal due to issues regarding the Anaheim Chamber of Commerce, James P. Vanderpool is the Anaheim City Manager. He has been with Anaheim since September 2020 taking over for Interim City Manager Greg Garcia, who filled in following the dismissal of City Manager Chris Zapata. Jim previously worked for the City of Buena Park for 25 years, serving as City Manager from 2012 to 2020. He served Buena Park as Deputy City Manager and in the city’s Public Works Department. He began his public service career as an Intern with the City of Mission Viejo (1993-1995). Jim graduated from Servite High School and earned a BA in public administration from Purdue University and a Master’s in business administration from the University of Phoenix.

“People are in greater need of your praise when they try and fail, than when they try and succeed.”

---Bob Moawad
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Bordering Rancho Mirage and Palm Desert, the 2010 census found the population to be 7,715. The postal service was established in 1915.

Executive Level Posse Roster:
Wade McKinney, Retired Indian Wells City Manager
Mike Sedell, Retired Simi Valley City Manager
Larry F. Pennell, Retired City Manager, Wasco
Kevin O’Rourke, KOLGS/PARS; Retired City Manager
Glenn Southard, Retired CM, Indio & Claremont
Joe Tanner, Retired Vallejo City Manager
Guy Huffaker, Retired Porterville City Manager
Vern Lawson, Retired, Lancaster
Robert T. “Bob” Dickey, Retired South Gate DPW
Doug Dunlap, Retired City Manager, Pomona
Rita Geldert, Retired City Manager, Vista
Dale Geldert, Retired CDF Director, State of California
Anthony D. Gonsalves, Joe A. Gonsalves & Son
Jason Gonsalves, Joe A. Gonsalves & Son
Paul Gonsalves, Joe A. Gonsalves & Son
Richard Rowe, Retired City Manager
Lloyd de Llamas, Retired City Mon./HdL Co-founder
John Shirey, Retired City Manager, Sacramento
Charles E. “Chuck” Bryant, Past Hawaiian Gardens
John Russo, Retired City Manager; SynchroniCITY
Joe Goeden, Retired City Manager, W. Sacramento
Lee McDougal, Retired City Manager, Montclair
Mark Scott, Retired City Manager; Interim, Downey
Ron Kiedrowski, Retired San Pablo/La Quinta
Doug La Belle, Retired City Manager, Chino Hills
Don Penman, Retired City Manager, Arcadia

Posse Roster:
Gregory Korduner, Retired City Manager, Huntington Park
Sam Olivito, Retired CCCA Executive Director
Roy Pederson, ICMA Past-President
Rod B. Butler, Jurupa Valley, City Manager
Rita Geldert, Retired City Manager, Vista
Dale Geldert, Retired CDF Director, State of CA
Dr. Carlos A. Urrutia, Retired Rocklin City Manager
Ray Taylor, Retired City Manager, Westlake Village
Denise Ovrom, Former CM retired from HdL Companies
Jim Lewis, City Manager, City of Pismo Beach
Cynthia Kurtz, Interim City Manager, Pasadena
Ron Molendyk, Retired City Manager, Lake Elsinore
Kevin Duggan, Retired City Manager, Mountain View
Gary Milliman, Retired City Manager, Brookings, Oregon
Executive Leadership in Six Cities of the County of Orange

Following the exit of City Manager Chris Zapata, who serves as the City Manager for the City of Sausalito, Anaheim Assistant City Manager Greg Garcia served as Interim City Manager. Greg has served as Deputy or Assistant City Manager since 2012. He has played a leading role in the city’s daily operations, including the city’s emergency response to the coronavirus (COVID). Greg’s father Ernie Garcia is a highly thought of retired City Manager for the City Norwalk. Greg is a graduate of Servite High School in Anaheim. He earned a BA in political science from the University of California, San Diego, and he earned a law degree from University of Notre Dame Law School.

Deborah Moreno is the Anaheim Finance Director and City Treasurer. After beginning her working career in the private sector in January 1990, Debbie joined the Anaheim city staff in February 2001 as a Principal Accountant, and in June 2005 she was promoted to Financial Accounting Manager. In January 2006, Debbie took the Finance Director position in the City of La Palma. She returned to Anaheim as the Deputy Finance Director in August 2007. Debbie was appointed Anaheim Finance Director in July 2012. She earned a BS in accounting from California State University, San Bernardino.
Executive Leadership in Six Cities of the County of Orange

Spanish visited the Brea area in 1769. The area came to be a center of crude oil production and later by citrus production. Today Brea is a significant retail center with the Brea Mall and downtown area. The City of Brea incorporated in February 1917 and the 2020 population is set at 47,325. Bill Gallardo is the City Manager and Lillian Harris-Neal is the City Clerk, and Kristin Griffith is the Administrative Services Director. Jason Killebrew is the Brea Community Development Director, and Chris Emeterio is the Community Services Director and Assistant City Manager. Michael Ho is the Public Works Director. Marty Simonoff is a well-known Brea official.

William Gallardo joined the Brea city staff in April 1990 as a Management Analyst. In September of that year, Bill became the city’s Revenue Manager in the Finance Department (September 1990-August 2004). In August 2004, Bill became the city of Brea Finance Director, and he was promoted to Assistant City Manager and Administrative Services Director in April 2010. Bill was selected to serve as the City Manager in July 2015. He has worked for Brea for more than 33 years. Bill earned a BS in business from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona where he was an active member of the Delta Delta Fraternity. In 2020 Bill received a 30-year ICMA Service Award.

Wayne D. Wedin served as the Brea City Manager from August 1968 until February 1983. Wayne began his career as an Administrative Intern in Pasadena in 1960 and in Santa Fe Springs in 1961. Wayne was hired to serve as Administrative Assistant and City Treasurer in Santa Fe Springs in June 1962. He became the Assistant to the City Manager (1964-1965) and the Assistant City Manager in July 1965 where he worked until leaving for Brea. Wayne earned a BA and MPA from the University of Southern California (USC). He received a 20-year ICMA Service Award in 1988. Wayne continues to be a “Proof of Life” member.
Executive Leadership in Six Cities of the County of Orange

Tim O’Donnell served as the Brea City Manager for 15 years (July 2000-July 2015). Tim began his public management career in November 1976 as an Administrative Assistant for the City of Bellflower where he worked with former City Administrator John Jameson. Tim became the Human Services Manager for the City of Garden Grove in 1979 and he worked there until January 1983 when he became the Assistant City Manager in the City of Signal Hill. Tim moved to the Assistant City Manager position in Brea in September 1990 and became City Manager in 2000. Tim earned a BA from California State University, Los Angeles. He received a 35-year ICMA Service Award in 2011.

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Fran Mancia can be reached at 559-288-7296.

Fran is a member of the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF). Fran was elected a University of California Alumni Regent in 2016.

Buena Park is on land that formerly was part of the Rancho Los Coyotes. Rule of the area moved from the Spanish to the authority of Mexico in 1822. The area went to the United States in 1848 as part of California that was granted statehood in 1850. The Buena Park area has transitioned primarily to residential from the dairy, wine and citrus industries. Orange groves and smudge pots have been replaced with homes and a few tourist attractions. Buena Park is home to Knott’s Berry Farm. The city incorporated in January 1953. The 2020 population is set at 84,034. Aaron France is the City Manager and Adria M. Jimenez is the City Clerk. The Community Development Director is Matt Foulkes, and Jim Box is the Community Development Director Service Director. Sung Hyun is the Buena Park Finance Director. Assistant City Manager Eddie Fenton provides Human Resources administration, and Mina Mikhail is the Director of Public Works and City Engineer.

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--Bruce Bouchy
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Aaron France became the City of Buena Park City Manager on March 9, 2021 when he was officially sworn in. Aaron began his tenure with Buena Park in 2005, as an Administrative Analyst in the City Manager’s office. In 2012, he became the Assistant to the City Manager. Aaron was promoted to Deputy City Manager in 2017 and he became Assistant City Manager in 2018. He earned a BA in communications and an MPA from California State University, Fullerton. Aaron succeeded City Manager Jim Vanderpool, who left to become the Anaheim City Manager.

Buena Park Assistant City Manager Eddie Fenton began his public service career as a Human Resources Assistant for the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority in November 1999. He worked as a Human Resources Analyst in Santa Monica (2002-2005) and as a Senior Human Resources Analyst in Inglewood (2005-2007). Eddie was self-employed in 2006-2008 and he joined the Buena Park city staff in April 2007 as the Human Resources Manager. He became the Director of Human Resources in July 2012, and in September 2020, Eddie was appointed Assistant City Manager, while retaining the Human Resources Director duties. Eddie is a history alumnus of the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).

Former Buena Park City Manager Kevin O’Rourke (1985-1997) is a past President of the City Managers’ Department of the League of California Cities (1997-1998), and he was a Regional Vice President on the Executive Board of ICMA.

“I know it’s a hard job, but I have a lot of help. The guys that are in here, they’re all going to help me. They’re not going to overload me and let me sink.”

--Ron “Gator” Guidry
Executive Leadership in Six Cities of the County of Orange

Costa Mesa gained much of its population during and following World War II due to the nearby Santa Ana Army Air Base. Costa Mesa is the home of the Orange County Fairgrounds and Expo. Former city manager Doug Labelle serves on the fair board of directors. Adjacent to the fairgrounds is the Pacific Amphitheatre. The city is a general law city, and was incorporated in June 1953. It has a 2020 population of 111,918. Lori Ann Farrell Harrison is the City Manager and Brenda Green is the City Clerk. Alma Reyes is the Deputy City Manager and Fatima Gutierrez-Cueva is the Executive Assistant to the City Manager.

Lori Ann Farrell Harrison was named to the Costa Mesa City Manager position following a four-month nationwide executive recruitment search. She previously served as the Assistant City Manager for the City of Huntington Beach starting in 2017. Lori Ann worked as the Huntington Beach Chief Financial Officer for some seven years. Before her Huntington Beach experience, Lori Ann was the City Controller (2006-2008) and the Chief Financial Officer (2007-2010) for the City of Long Beach. She also served as the Director of Finance for the City of Lomita (2003-2006). Before coming to California, she worked for the State of New York. Lori Ann earned a BA in anthropology and psychology from Barnard College of Columbia University and an MPA from Columbia University. She is fluent in Spanish and English.

Costa Mesa Deputy City Manager Alma Reyes worked as an Administrative Analyst in the City of Hawaiian Gardens (2001-2011) prior to joining the Costa Mesa city staff starting as a Waste Management & Recycling Coordinator. She worked her way up to the Deputy City Manager appointment in April 2023. She earned an MPA from California State University, Long Beach.

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Anthony Gonsalves is a long time Member of the CCMF Board of Trustees

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Cypress was originally incorporated in 1956 with the name Dairy City, supported by local dairy farmers in an effort to protect their land from developers. Neighboring cities of Dairy Valley, which is Cerritos, and Dairyland, which is La Palma took similar actions. Following the end of World War II, the property became too valuable to farm and the dairies gradually relocated and housing took their place. The city name was changed in 1957. The name was derived from Cypress Elementary School, which was originally built in 1895. The late City Manager Darrell Essex worked for the city 31-years becoming City Manager in 1962. Darrell passed away in 2019 at the age of 87. Peter Grant is the current City Manager and Alisha Farnell is the City Clerk. Alicia Velasco is the Planning Director. Matt Burton is the Finance Director.

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Peter Grant served as a Principal Analyst for the City of Huntington Beach starting in January 2000. He then went to work for The Olson Company in January 2005. Peter returned to city government in October 2009 as a Strategic Business Plan Administrator for the City of Irvine. Peter was appointed Assistant City Manager for the City of Redondo Beach starting in December 2010. He was recruited to serve as the Cypress City Manager in July 2014. Peter earned a BA in political science from the University of California, Riverside and an MPA from the University of Southern California (USC).

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Cypress Director of Finance & Administrative Services is Matt J. Burton, and Donna Mullally is the Assistant Director.

Douglas Dancs, P.E., is the Director of Public Works.

Former Director of Recreation & Community Services Cameron Harding left Cypress in May 2021 to be the Director of Community Services for the City of Redondo Beach. He previously served as the Director of Parks & Recreation for the City of Lomita (September 2012-November 2018). He earned a BA from Western Washington University and a Master’s in recreation administration from California State University, Long Beach.
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The Authority can help communities create the infrastructure and acquire the equipment needed to create a better quality of life for their citizens.

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Lodi City Manager Steve Schwabauer will leave the city in October to take a General Manager position with a water district. Steve was appointed City Manager for the City of Lodi in May 2014 after working as the Lodi City Attorney for ten years. He earned a BA from the University of California, Davis and a JD from the University of California, Berkeley School of Law. He practiced law with a private firm in Stockton and he came to Lodi in 1999 as Deputy City Attorney and he was named City Attorney in 2004. Steve took the City Manager position in 2014 when City Manager Rad Bartlam left to be the City Manager in Chino Hills. Former Simi Valley City Manager and Ventura County Chief Executive Officer Martin L. “Lin” Koester passed away on July 9, 2018, after a three-year battle with cancer. Lin was a highly skilled and humble public service executive. After serving 6-months as an Interim City Manager in 1978 he was hired as the Simi Valley City Manager. Lin was hired as the Ventura County CEO in 1995 when CEO Richard Wittenberg left to work for Santa Clara County. He retired in 1999. He lived with his wife Suzi in their home in Pismo Beach. Lin earned a BS in civil engineering from Oregon State University and an MPA from Pepperdine University. Meghan McKelvey has worked as the Department and Membership Services Manager for the League of California Cities since June 2014. She joined the League staff in February 2008 as a Legislative Assistant, and she was promoted to Policy Analyst in December 2010. Meghan has worked closely with the City Managers’ Department. She received an Outstanding Service Award from the California City Management Foundation (CCMF) in 2018. Meghan earned a BA from California State University, Bakersfield and an MPA from the University of Southern California (USC). Former Downey Deputy City Manager (2020-2022) and Moreno Valley Assistant City Manager (2022), Aldo Schindler has served as the City Manager for the City of Artsesia since November 2022. Aldo began his public service career in 2000 as a Redevelopment Project Officer for the City of Long Beach (2000-2009). He worked as the Director of Community Development in Bell Gardens (2009-2011) and Whittier (2011-2014). Aldo earned a BA in political science and government from San Diego State University and an MPA from California State University, Long Beach.

“Each day silently affirm that you are the type of person with whom you would like to spend the rest of your life.”
--- Bob Moawad
More Pieces Picked Up: Members of the South Tahoe Public Utilities District Board appointed Paul Hughes as the General Manager of the District. Paul served the District as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for the past 15 years. Paul previously worked in finance with the Cities of Troutdale and Brookings, Oregon, the Modoc Medical Center and the California State Association of Counties. We salute former city managers Bud and Denise Ovrom. These two veteran public management professionals served as the 2023 City Managers in Residence for USC Price, hosted by the USC City/County Management Fellowship and sponsored by Hdl Companies. The program provides students of the USC Sol Price School of Public Policy to hear real life experiences and a rare learning opportunity. Veteran El Segundo City Manager Darrell George is proud to talk about his city’s improvement in its credit issuer rating by Standard & Poor’s (S&P) Global Ratings. The El Segundo rating has been raised from AA+ to AAA, the highest rating a municipality can be assigned. This upgraded rating is a major contributing factor in continuing the city’s reputation as a business-friendly city, according to Darrell. Joe Perez, the Community Development Director for the City of Jurupa Valley since November 2020, began his public service career in the City of La Habra Heights in August 1991. He served there as Assistant City Manager and City Manager, leaving La Habra Heights in October 1994 to be the La Puente Assistant City Manager. Joe left La Puente in August 1995 to become the Director of Community Services & Recreation for the City of Paramount, where he worked for nearly 17 years. In September 2012, Joe became the Community Development Director for the City of Bell and in April 2015 he took a similar position with the City of Lawndale. Joe left Lawndale in January 2016 and went to work as the South Gate Community Development Director, leaving that post in 2020 to join the Jurupa Valley staff. Joe is a Lakewood High School graduate and earned a BA in political science from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). Salinas City Manager Steven S. Carrigan is a finalist for the San Bernardino City Manager position. Steve was previously the City Manager for the City of Merced starting in 2016. He was dismissed from Merced in 2020. Before that he worked as the Los Banos City Manager, and as the Assistant City Manager for the City of Sanger (December 2011-April 2013). Steve also worked for the Yuba Sutter Economic Development Corporation (2009); Stockton (2001-2009) and the City of Lathrop (2009-2011). Steve earned a BA from the University of Arizona. Pinole City Manager Andrew J. Murray resigned from his position. He began his Pinole tenure in January 2020. He was the Assistant City Manager in Pleasant Hill (2013-2020) and Oakland Assistant to the City Administrator (2012-2013).
Frederick Sorsabal
(July, 1937 – July 22, 2023)

Frederick “Fred” Sorsabal, 85, of Coeur d’Alene, Idaho passed away on Friday, July 22, 2023. Fred began his public service career as an Administrative Intern in the City of Anaheim in October 1958. Following the competition of the intern program, Fred was hired as an Anaheim Administrative Aide in July 1959, and he was promoted to Administrative Analyst in July 1960. After serving as the Assistant to the City Manager from July 1962 until September 1967, when he took the Assistant City Manager position in San Bernardino in September 1967. In September 1968, Fred became the Assistant City Manager in the City of Costa Mesa, where he served until August 1970 when he was appointed to the Costa Mesa City Manager post. Fred left Costa Mesa in November 1985. He became the El Segundo City Manager in January 1988 and he started as the Mission Viejo City Manager position in April 1989. Fred retired from Mission Viejo in January 1994. Fred earned an AA from Fullerton Junior College and a BA from California State University, Fullerton. In 1992 Fred received a 30-year ICMA Service Award. He participated in the ICMA exchange program to the United Kingdom in 1981. Fred and his wife Marlene would have celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary this year. Longtime Mission Viejo City Manager Dan Joseph was originally hired to an executive staff position in 1990 by City Manager Fred Sorsabal.

Still More Pieces Picked Up: Rekha Nayar went to work for the City of Vallejo as Deputy Finance Director in October 2016. She is a California CPA and she earned a BA in economics and statistics from Fergusson College and an MBA from Savitribai Phule Pune University. Rekha was appointed Interim Finance Director in January 2019 and she became the Director of Finance in March 2019.

SHORTS: *Trackdown congratulations to the El Segundo 12 and Under All-Star Little League team for winning the Little League World Series Championship. *John Berchtold, a former Blue Lake City Manager (2010-2016) who received a 40-year ICMA Service Award in 2014, traveled from his Michigan home to work with the City of Jackson with their strategic planning. *Former South Gate Administrative Analyst (1994-2002); Orange County Transportation Authority Chief Assistant Clerk of the Board (2002-2004) and Hawaiian Gardens Assistant to the City Administrator; Rita Gallardo Good is a Senior Associate Vice President for California State University, Sacramento. *Five Cities Fire Authority Fire Chief Steve Lieberman will retire in December 2023. *After working in Fullerton for a dozen years Nicole Bernard was hired to serve as the Assistant City Manager for the City of Tustin starting in January 2020. *It was reported August 18 that Anaheim Mayor Ashleigh Aitken calls for the resignation of any City Hall leader involved in planning a mock council meeting to polish their pitch for a development agreement for the city’s stadium to the Angels’ baseball organization. *City Manager Inge Elmes of the City of California City previously worked with the California City Chamber of Commerce. *Monterey Assistant City Manager Nat Rajanasathira, who worked in the Town of Danville for nearly 13-years, finds himself on the cover of the August 2023 issue of PM Magazine that includes his article on emergency preparedness. *James W. Buell served as the Stanton City Manager starting in February 1986 after working as the City Manager for Greenfield (1984-1986) and Watsonville (1978-1981). *Jeffrey McIlwain, formerly of Cerritos and now a San Diego resident, is on the faculty of San Diego State University’s Public Administration program. *Moorpark Assistant City Manager PJ Gagajena is a member of the Advisory Council for the Master of Public Policy and Administration for California Lutheran University. *Former Willdan Energy Solutions Vice President Katie Wilson, a former City Manager, earned an MPA from California State University, Long Beach, and is serving as a Vice President for TRC Companies, Inc. *Sandra L. Kerl, San Diego County Water Authority General Manager since 2019, retired this month after 41-years of public service. *Bellflower Assistant Planner Eliana Muñoz since July 2017 worked as a Planning Intern in Norwalk and Pico Rivera before taking a Youth Employment Program Coordinator post in Hawaiian Gardens. ***
“Proof of Life”
Twenty (20) veteran public managers gathered on Thursday, June 29, 2023 for a “Proof of Life” lunch at the North Woods Inn Restaurant in La Mirada. 
They included:

Greg Korduner, retired Huntington Park City Manager. Greg is a Founder of the “Proof of Life” function program. He also served as City Manager in El Monte and South El Monte. He also worked for Norwalk and Artesia. He served as Interim City Manager in Los Alamitos. Greg is an avid golfer and sports fan. He is an Angels and Dodgers fan.

Wayne Wedin, who served as the Brea City Manager for 15-years. Wayne also served as a Council Member and Mayor in Brea. He is the President of Wedin Enterprise, Inc., a financial consulting firm.

Ron Molendyk, former Lake Elsinore City Manager and Interim City Manager in Perris, who took delivery of a 2023 Corvette C8 Stingray on September 25, 2022. Ron is a past President of the Orange County Corvette Club.

Mike Egan, a retired Norwalk City Manager and longtime Bellflower City Manager. Mike recently served as the Interim City Manager in Artesia. He is an enthusiastic USC booster.

Jim DeStefano, retired Diamond Bar City Manager. Jim was Community Development Director for Chino Hills when he was appointed Diamond Bar City Manager in July 2006. He retired in 2017.

Don Wagner, retired Assistant City Manager in Rosemead where he worked with the late City Manager Frank G. Tripepi. Don has served as Interim Administrator in Maywood since retirement, and with Lynwood.

Don Vestal, former City Manager for the City of Westminster. Don worked for Westminster for nearly 27 years. He was City Manager from April 1997 to December 2003. He is a U. S. Navy veteran. He worked with Hdl Companies from March 2007 to June 2018.

Bill Crowe retired as the Assistant City Manager in El Segundo. He previously served as the Rosemead City Manager and early in his career he was Interim City Manager in Paramount before working 10-years as a Deputy to County Supervisor Peter Schabarum.

Mark Alexander recently retired as the La Cañada Flintridge City Manager from 2003 after joining the city staff in October 1988. He also worked in San Dimas, Glendora and Simi Valley. Earned an MPA at the University of Southern California (USC). Mark is an enthusiastic USC Trojan booster.

Gary Chicots is a former City Manager for South El Monte. He also worked assignments in Rosemead, Hawaiian Gardens, Lawndale, El Segundo, Lynwood and Huntington Park.

Robert Dickey, retired South Gate Public Works Director. Bob is a former Walnut City Manager. He worked for the Southern California Edison Co., and with the Cities of Rosmead and Signal Hill. He was a stockbroker in a former life, and is known for his world travel, and his left-handed heroics on the racquetball court.

Jorge Rifa, retired as the City Administrator for the City of Commerce where he served for 9 years. He was a longtime Deputy City Manager in the City of Salinas and he previously served as the Soledad City Manager and worked in El Monte and Compton. He is an avid San Francisco Giants’ fan.

Jim Purtee is a retired City Manager of Palmdale (2015-2019) and also worked for the City of Simi Valley for 27-years. That means Jim knows Mike Sedell and Laura Behjan.

Charlie Wagner, former City of Avalon City Manager and long time SCAG staff member. He also worked for Hawaiian Gardens and the City of Artesia, where his nickname became “Three-two Charley”.

Jon Shull is the recently retired Chief Executive Officer of the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority. Previously worked for the Cities of Cerritos and Signal Hill.

Tom Robinson, retired City of La Mirada City Manager (2008-2013). Tom also worked for Commerce and Cerritos, and since retirement he served as Interim City Manager in La Habra Heights. He is a Management Consultant with his firm TR Management Services, Inc.

Andy Pasmant, retired West Covina City Manager. He also served as the City Manager, Deputy City Manager and Director of Community Development in South Gate.

John Reekstin, Senior Vice President in Community Development for The Olson Company. He previously worked as the Redevelopment Agency Director in Santa Ana.

Lou Shepard, retired City of Commerce City Administrator. He also worked as City Manager for Delano, San Pablo, and Signal Hill. Lou also served as the Executive Director of the Pasadena Redevelopment Agency. He also worked for San Leandro and Fremont.

Jack A. Simpson, who held positions in Paramount, Artesia, Cerritos, Hawaiian Gardens and Bellflower. Also, served as an Interim department head in La Puente. Former member of the CCMF Board of Trustees. Also, worked with Willdan.

The next lunch is planned for Thursday, September 28, 2023.

Don Wagner, Mike Egan, Ron Molendyk and Bill Crowe at the North Woods Inn Restaurant in La Mirada.