

City Manager Newsletter By TRACKDOWN MANAGEMENT

"Providing thread to help stitch together the fabric of the
City Management Community"



January 2024 Special

Volume No. 17 | Issue No. 02

Click the logos throughout the newsletter to open links...

Management in the Second Six California Cities Listed Alphabetically

Cities included in this Issue of the City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown are California's first six cities listed alphabetically: [Alturas](#), [Amador City](#), [American Canyon](#), [Anaheim](#), [Anderson](#) and [Angels Camp](#). These cities and towns are located in the counties of Modoc, Amador, Napa, Orange, Shasta, and Calaveras. Of the six, [Anaheim](#) is the oldest, incorporating in March 1876. The late **Keith Murdoch** served as the [Anaheim](#) city manager between 1950 and 1976. During his tenure Disneyland was founded and the Angels Major League Baseball team came to town. While Keith was city manager, [Anaheim](#) went from orange groves to become a destination city. Of this group of cities, [Amador City](#) is the smallest in the State with 200 people in about a third of a square mile.



California 57th District Assembly Member **Reggie Jones-Sawyer** in the "Wade McKinney colored" shirt shown here with **Anthony Gonsalves**, **Paul Gonsalves**, and **Jason Gonsalves**. The **Joe A. Gonsalves & Son** professional representation firm is acknowledged as the premier public agency professional representatives. They represent more than 500 cities and special districts as well as a number of private sector clients. The California City Management Foundation (CCMF) recognizes the firm as a longtime supporter and former Corporate Sponsor of the Year.

Jack & Susan Simpson, 10 Claret, Rancho Mirage, California 92270

Jack's Cell | 562/896-5424; Susan's Cell | 310/418-1035

www.trackdownmanagement.net | Jack@trackdownmanagement.net



Pat West served nearly 40-years in city government. He has developed successful strategies and paths to issues facing local government. Pat can help you, whether you are a City Manager looking for ways to turn your city around, or a developer needing assistance navigating the complexities of the political and/or entitlement process.

Pat West was honored with the League of California Cities 2019 Wes McClure Award for City Managers of Distinction.



Pat has had numerous successful experiences with public-private partnerships.

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Management in the Second Six California Cities Listed Alphabetically



Alturas is the county seat for Modoc County, located in the north easterly corner of California. The 024 Chair of the Board of Supervisors for Modoc County is **Shane Starr**. Shane is a graduate of California State University, Chico. He works for the local member of Congress. Modoc County was made from the easter section of Siskiyou County in 1874. **Chester Robertson** is the County Administrative Officer. Alturas was originally named for the bridge Pressley and James Dorris built across the Pit River. The Dorris Bridge post office opened in 1871. The town was renamed Dorrisville in 1874 and then Alturas in 1876. The city was incorporated in September 1901. The Nevada-California-Oregon Railway Building built in 1917-1918 is in Alturas.



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Some have asked about sprint cars. This is **Kyle Larson** of Elk Grove in his sprint car on a dirt track. Though Kyle is excellent on dirt, he is a former NASCAR Champion.

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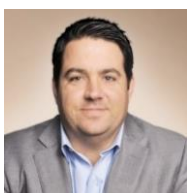
Management in the Second Six California Cities Listed Alphabetically

Alturas has a 2020 population of 2,715. Elected City Clerk **Macey Binning** has served in the office for 4 years. **Dorothy Long** has been the Finance Director and City Treasurer since 2018. **Warren Farnam** is the Planning Director and **Dorothey Long** is the Secretary to the Alturas Planning Commission. Alturas is Spanish for "a valley on top of a mountain." The city has an estimated 19 employees. **Joe Picotte** is the Director of Public Works. **Jeff Hedlund** is the City Attorney, and the Fire Marshal is **Eric Hunter**. **Sid Cullins**, who served as the Chief of Police since 2015 and worked for the city 38 years, passed away at the end of 2023.



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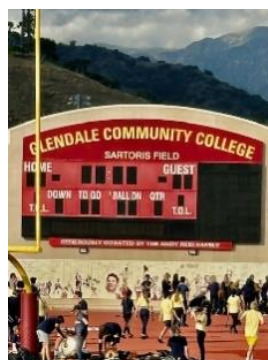


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The nationally renowned University of Michigan Marching Band rehearsed at Glendale Community College prior to their Rose Parade and Rose Bowl appearances.

Trackdown Posse Roster

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 Man./HdL Co-founder
John Shirey, Retired City Manager, Sacramento
John Russo, Retired City Manager; SynchroniCITY
Lee McDougal, Retired City Manager, Montclair
Mark Scott, Retired City Manager
Doug La Belle, Retired City Manager, Chino Hills
Don Penman, Retired City Manager, Arcadia
Chuck Bryant, Past City Admin., Hawaiian Gardens
Sam Olivito, Retired CCCA Executive Director

Posse Roster:

Gregory Korduner, Retired City Manager, Huntington Park
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 City Manager, Rocklin
Ray Taylor, Retired City Manager, Westlake Village
Denise Ovrom, Former CM retired from HdL Companies
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
Joe Goeden, Retired City Manager, West Sacramento
Jim Lewis, City Manager, City of Atascadero
Donald Jeffers, Retired City Manager, Huntington Park



**City Manager Newsletter by
Trackdown Management**

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Rancho Mirage, California 92270

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Former City Administrator

Wesley Wolf, Founder

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Jim L. Barisic, former Artesia City Manager who also worked in Cerritos and Paramount, and is a Viet Nam veteran, founded **Brandywine** in 1994.

Jim and two of his sons **Brett Whitehead** and **David Barisic**, and **Alex Hernandez** and **Mario Urzua** direct, **Brandywine Homes**. Please check the firm's website for current sales!

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Amador City is the smallest and least populous incorporated city in the State of California. The city has a total incorporated area of 0.3 square miles. This Amador County community is formerly known as Amador's Creek or South Amador and was originally settled in 1849. The city was incorporated in June 1915 and has a 2020 population of 2000. Amador City is named for **José Maria Amador**, a California miner who found gold in the area in 1848. The original mining town era buildings have been repurposed as unique shops, restaurants and other attractions. **Joyce Davidson** is the City Clerk and **Holly Groth** is the City Treasurer.



Joyce Davidson is a resident of Amador City and serves as the City Clerk. For the past 20 years Joyce has owned the Amador City Mercantile.

Amador City is home to the Imperial Hotel, the Bellflower Home and Garden center, the Naked Frog Soapery & Such Boutique and many other unique shops for browsing.



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Roxanne Diaz is a former member of the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF).
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HdL was founded in 1983 by former City Manager the late **Robert "Bob" Hinderliter**. **HdL** expanded and improved with the help of a partnership with former City Manager **Lloyd de Llamas**, the firm's retired Executive Chairman.



Andy Nickerson is the President/CEO. Other members of the **HdL** team include **Vikki Beatley**, **Paula Cone**, **Barry Foster**, **Robert Gray**, **Kimberly Konczak**, **David McPherson**, and **Bobby Young**.

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American Canyon is found in the southern part of the Napa County and is the county's second most populous city. The city was incorporated in January 1992 and the 2020 population is set at 21,837. **Jason Holley** is the city manager, **Maria Lara-Ojeda** is the Assistant City Manager and **Taresa Geilfuss** is the City Clerk.

Jason Holley has been the American Canyon city manager since October 2017. He joined the city staff in December 2013 as the Director of Public Works. Prior to joining American Canyon, Jason worked as a Senior Civil Engineer for the City of Napa between March 2007 and December 2013. He worked for two different private sector firms starting in July 2000. Jason earned a BS in bioresource and agricultural engineering from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. He is a registered civil engineer in California.



NHA advisors, LLC provides strategic, objective and financially sound advice to public agencies throughout California. Consistently ranked as one of the most active municipal advisors*, NHA Advisors is distinguished from the competition by delivering broad advisory and consulting services to meet the challenging and complex needs of public agency clients. As a fiduciary, the firm develops comprehensive options and strategies that solve for maintaining/enhancing service levels, capital project needs, manage and contain costs and risks such as rising pension costs and promote fiscal sustainability through prudent policies.



Principals include **Mark Northcross**, **Eric Scriven**, **Mike Meyer**, **Rob Schmidt**, and **Leslie Bloom**.

Craig Hill, *Managing Principal*
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Trackdown grandchildren Lei Lei, Tyler, and Koa at a University of Michigan Marching Band rehearsal. Lei Lei and Koa were there to watch their brother perform with the band.

Management in the Second Six California Cities Listed Alphabetically

Today's American Canyon city executive team includes Finance Director **Juan Gomez**; **Maria Ojeda**, Assistant City Manager; Parks and Recreation Director **Alexandra Ikeda**; Public Works Director **Erica Ahmann Smithies**; Community Development Director **Brent Cooper**; Chief of Police **Rick Greenberg**; and Fire Chief **Geoff Belyea**.



Richard J. Ramirez worked as the City Manager for the City of American Canyon for more than 5 years starting in November 2006. He served as the Assistant City Manager for the City of Sacramento from 2000 to 2006 and he was city manager in the cities of Hemet (1998-2000); Paso Robles (1991-1996); and Lincoln (1981-1991). He began his public service career as an Administrative Assistant for South El Monte in September 1975 and was promoted to Community Development Director in 1977 before joining the City of Stanton staff in 1978 where he worked with retired Fairfield City Manager **Kevin O'Rourke**, who was the Director of Human Resources. Since he retired, Rich has worked a number of interim assignments as an "Interim" executive through his firm Interim Public Management Services with the moniker "Need Interim Will Travel."



Picture by **Tammy Martinelli** of Redding. This is Bridge Bay on Shasta Lake. The lake continues to fill.



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Mitch Barker, Senior Consultant
(800) 540-6369 ext. 116 or mbarker@pars.org



**Kevin O'Rourke, Senior
Municipal Consultant**
(707) 249-5356 or kevin@kolgs.com



Yes! It gets cold in the desert. Regardless, the Sunnylands Center & Gardens in Rancho Mirage are well worth a visit.

Management in the Second Six California Cities Listed Alphabetically



Orange County City of Anaheim, a Charter City, was originally incorporated in March 1876 as a part of Los Angeles County. The city was founded in 1857 by a group of mostly German families as an agricultural community. Orange County took part of Los Angeles County in 1889. The city went from agriculture to become a destination vacation city following the opening of Disneyland in July 1955. Today the city is the home of the Anaheim Convention Center, the Los Angeles Angels Major League Baseball team, and the Anaheim Ducks of the National Hockey League (NHL), as well as, Disneyland and many hotels, restaurants and other resort facilities. The 2020 population is 346,824. Since September 2020, **James Vanderpool** has served as the Anaheim City Manager. **Theresa Bass** is the City Clerk and Gregory Garcia is the Deputy City Manager. The Community Services Director is **Sjany Larson-Cash**, and **Debbie Moreno** is the Finance Director and City Treasurer. **Ted White** is the Planning & Building Director, and **Rudy Emami** is the Public Works Director. **Carlos Castellanos** is the City Engineer. **Rick Armendariz** is the Anaheim Chief of Police.

California Contract Cities Association



Dr. Julian Gold of Beverly Hills, President
Jennifer Perez of Norwalk, Vice President
Marcel Rodarte Executive Director

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Management in the Second Six California Cities Listed Alphabetically

Anaheim City Manager **James P. "Jim" Vanderpool** previously served as the city manager for the City of Buena Park. Someone said that he went from Knott's Berry Farm to Disneyland! Jim joined the Anaheim executive team in September 2020 succeeding former City Manager **Chris Zapata**. Jim is the 15th city manager to serve the City of Anaheim since the position was created in 1919. Jim was the Buena Park City Manager starting in 2012. Before becoming the Buena Park city manager, Jim worked there in the Public Works Department, Assistant City Manager and Deputy City Manager. He earned a BA from Purdue University and an MBA from the University of Phoenix.

Chris Zapata served as the Anaheim city manager from August 2018 until April 2020. He currently works as the city manager for the City of Sausalito. He previously was the city manager in the cities of National City (2004-2012) and San Leandro (2012-2018). Chris earned a BA from Northern Arizona University.

Keith Murdoch served as the Anaheim city manager from 1950 until his retirement in 1976. Keith worked closely with the Disney organization when they were building Disneyland, and he became a close friend to **Walt Disney**. Keith passed away in 2011 at the age of 92.

"Workaholic" **James D. Ruth** became Anaheim city manager in May 1990. He worked in Maywood, Lynwood and Downey and joined Anaheim as Parks and Recreation Director. He also served in Long Beach. He retired in 2018 as the Rossmoor Community Services District General Manager.

Some "city manager giants" have served Anaheim and some "not so much." A partial roster includes **Bill Talley** (1976-1987), **Bob Wingerth**, **Marcie Edwards**, **Tom Wood**, **Paul Emery**, **Bob D. Simpson**, **David M. Morgan** (2001-2009) and others.



"Proof of Life" founder **Greg Korduner** and retired California JPIA Executive Director **Jon Shull** standing between their classic Ford Mustangs.



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Anthony Gonsalves and two of his sons, **Jason Gonsalves** and **Paul Gonsalves**, are expert local government lobbyists. Founded by former Assembly Member **Joe A. Gonsalves**, the firm represents 50-plus cities and is a key player in city legislation. The firm works closely with the League of California Cities.

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



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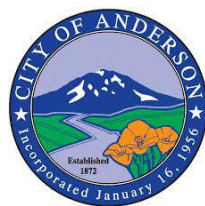


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Pam Rodrigues, GBDS Manager
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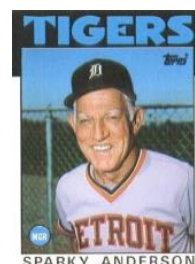


Anderson is named for ranch owner **Elias Anderson**, who allowed the Oregon and California Railroad rights of way and a station site in 1872. The railroad gave the local station/depot the name "Anderson." Anderson is in Shasta County. Though the community has a long history, it was incorporated as a city in January 1956. The 2020 population is 11,323. As a side note, former Anderson Mayor and Council Member **Stan Morgan** is a former Assistant City Manager in Dairy Valley (Cerritos). **Joey Forseth-Deshais** is the new Anderson City Manager succeeding the retired City Manager **Jeff Kiser**. **Christy White** is the Anderson City Clerk, and



City Manager **Joseph "Joey" Forseth-Deshais** joined the Anderson city staff as Director of Community Services in 2023. He previously served as the Assistant Director of Community Services in Redding. He started his city manager tenure on January 3, 2024, succeeding retired city manager **Jeff Kiser**. Executive recruiters Peckham & McKenney were retained by the city regarding the Anderson city manager recruitment.

Retired City of Anderson Assistant City Manager **Liz Cottrell** worked for the city for nearly 24 years. She began as the Finance Office Manager in June 2000, and she was appointed Finance Director in December 2011. Liz earned a BA from National University.



"People who live in the past generally are afraid to compete in the present. I've got my faults, but living in the past is not one of them. There's no future in it."

--**Sparky Anderson** (1934-2010)

Management in the Second Six California Cities Listed Alphabetically



Angels Camp is the only incorporated city in Calaveras County. **Mark Twain** based his famous short story "*The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County*"

on a story he claimed he heard at the Angels Hotel in 1865. Angels Camp is sometimes called "Frogtown" due to Mark Twain's prose. The first post office was founded in 1851, called *Carson's Creek*. The name was changed in 1853 and the city was incorporated with the name "Angels" in 1912. The 2020 population is set at 3,667. **Rebecca Callen** is the Angels Camp City Administrator.



Rebecca Callen has been the Angels Camp City Administrator since February 2022 when she took over from former City Administrator **Melissa Eads**. Rebecca worked as a Business Analyst for the County of Calaveras

starting in December 2006. She was elected County Auditor-Controller in January 2011 and served in that position until September 2019. From October 2019 until January 2022, Rebecca worked as the Director of Administrative Services for the Calaveras County Water District. She worked there until she joined the Angels Camp city staff. Rebecca attended Butte Junior College, and the University of California, Davis continuing and professional education program. She earned a BS in strategic management from California State University, Chico.

Melissa Eads, who previously served as the Angels Camp City Administrator, is currently serving as the City Administrator for the City of Sonora. In Sonora she replaced City Administrator **Mary Rose Rutikanga**, who took a Peace Corps position in Africa. Melissa served in Angels Camp for four years and prior to that she was the Executive Director of the Calaveras Council of Governments and worked for Tuolumne County Transportation.



Debbie Smith, Executive Director

The **Independent Cities Finance Authority** is an unaffiliated Joint Powers Authority (JPA) with the goal of helping communities fund critical projects.

Since its inception in 1988, ICFA has assisted funding more than \$500 million in critical community projects, from hospitals to charter schools, public utilities, and housing.

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Providing innovative risk management solutions for its public agency partners for more than 40 years, the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority (California JPIA) is one of the largest municipal self-insurance pools in the state, with more than 120 member cities and other governmental agencies. Members actively participate in shaping the organization to provide important coverage for their operations. The California JPIA provides innovative risk management solutions through a comprehensive portfolio of programs and services, including liability, workers' compensation, pollution, property, and earthquake coverage, as well as extensive risk management training and loss control services.



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Continuing improvement at the Eisenhower Medical Center in the City of Rancho Mirage. The Eisenhower Medical Center, the No. 1 Inland Empire health care facility, is a new Kaiser Permanente Affiliated Hospital.

"The hardest thing to do in baseball is to hit a round baseball with a round bat, squarely."

---Ted Williams

Letters and Notes from Readers:

Nice article on Adelanto in the January 2024 issue! Thank you for the acknowledgment, it was very nice and very much appreciated. Annie was thrilled.

--Mike Sakamoto

Nice picture of Jeff (retired Bellflower City Manager) in the January 2024 issue. It was nice seeing the Greg and Karen Korduner picture too!

--Bob Dickey

It is my pleasure to sit on the Institute for Local Government (ILG) Board of Directors. We received the announcement of Don Benninghoven's passing last week. Thought I would pass it long.

---Lydia Romero, City Manager, Lemon Grove

Don Benninghoven (1933 – 2023)

Don Benninghoven lost his battle to cancer on Nov. 17, 2023, in Santa Barbara. He passed peacefully with his family by his side.

Don's remarkable 40-year career with the League of California Cities, the last 26 as Executive Director, saw him work with major figures in Sacramento and Washington, D.C., including seven California governors, from Pat Brown and Ronald Reagan to Jerry Brown and Arnold Schwarzenegger. He also worked with and became friends with several leading mayors, including Tom Bradley and Dianne Feinstein.

Don found a calling that ensured local government leaders had the flexibility and resources to carry out local goals. He influenced major legislation that continues to impact the lives of all Californians. And while the accomplishments were major, he felt his career was a great one because of the dedicated people he worked with, including the League staff, elected officials, and staff from all the cities he encountered during his career.

In retirement, Don was asked to carry out one more major public policy initiative: to help pass the Marine Life Protection Act to address overfishing of marine life along California's coast. In partnership with a veteran capitol staffer, Ken Wiseman, and a large team of talented scientists and others, Don's tireless ability to negotiate among virtually an unlimited list of opponents was on full display. His appointment to the California Fish and Wildlife Commission to ensure passage was quite a ride. Don was incredibly proud that this work would have an impact for generations.

(Obituary edited to fit)



Retired City Manager **Pat West**
Telephone No. 562-331-981

Pat West has lived and managed through just about anything a city can experience during his 39 years of working in city government.

Pat has developed successful strategies and paths to issues facing local government. Pat can help you, whether you are a City Manager looking for ways to turn your city around, or a developer needing assistance navigating the complexities of the political and/or entitlement process.

Pat has served as a government official in the Gateway Cities area for 39 years, working in both a contract city and a large charter city. Pat has held a variety of department head positions, and he has served as City Manager for 23 years of his 39 years in public service.

Pat is an expert in partnering the private and public sector as he has done successfully on many occasions in both small and large cities. [Click here](#) to review Pat's web page.

Services:

Every city is unique; there is no "one size fits all." Over the course of Pat's municipal government career, he has experienced most of the challenges cities are confronted with. Whether it be fiscal sustainability, working with elected officials, homelessness, working with developers, or the myriad of other issues facing cities today. Pat can offer strategies for success.

- **City Manager Survival Skills**
- **City Turnarounds**
- **Survival Skills in Evaluations**
- **Managing Conflict with Electeds**
- **Managing Different Cities**
- **Communications**
- **Labor Negotiations**
- **Policy Implementation**
- **Strategies for Developers**
- **Opportunity Zones**
- **Public-Private Partnerships for Municipalities**
- **Hiring Department Heads**
- **Financial Strategies**
- **Quality of Life Initiatives**
- **Homelessness**





Retired Cerritos Center Director **Jerry Simpson** and members of the Cerritos Cyclepaths during a 2023 group ride. Bicycle riding is good exercise.



Picking Up the Pieces: Veteran professional city manager **Brad Kilger** is back in the saddle as the City of Gustine has appointed him again as Interim City Manager. Brad served as city manager in the cities of Ceres, Martinez, and Benicia and as Town Manager for Yucca Valley. He has taken assignments as Interim City Manager in South Lake Tahoe, Los Altos

and Calistoga. Brad served as President of the City Managers' Department of the League of California Cities in 2012-2013 when he was the Benicia City Manager. Since September 2020 Brad has served as an ICMA Senior Advisor. In 2019 he received a 40-years ICMA Service Award. Highland Administrative Services Director **Chuck Dantuono** is the Interim City Manager following Highland City Manager **Joseph Hughes'** retirement at the end of December. He has worked four years as Director. Chuck is to serve until a city manager is appointed. Chuck serves on the Executive Committee for the California Intergovernmental Risk Authority (CIRA) as Treasurer. **John Kunkel** served as the City of Huron Interim City Manager. He reports that **Virginia Peñaloza** is the new Huron City Manager starting December 1. John previously served as the Buelton City Manager and as the Exeter City Administrator. He left Buelton in April 2013. Virginia earned a BA from the University of

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California, Merced. She worked for former U. S. Senator **Barbara Boxer** in 2014-2017, and for U. S. Senator **Kamala Harris** in 2017. Former Pacific Grove City Manager **Ben Harvey** is the new Ojai City Manager. Ben worked in Bellflower starting in 1992 and served as Assistant to the City Administrator for **Linda Lowry** until 1997. He served as a Management Analyst in Newport Beach 1997-1999 before working in the private sector for a time. He was a Region Manager for Local Public Affairs for the Southern California Edison Company from 2006 to 2013. Ben worked as the City Manager for the City of Avalon (2013-2015) before moving to Pacific Grove. Ben earned a BA from the University of California, Davis and an MPA from California State University, Long Beach. Ben's first day on the job in Ojai is January 29.

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More Pieces Picked Up: City Manager **James Makshanoff** ended his Pomona tenure on Monday, December 11. He agreed to a mutual employment separation agreement with the city. Jim began serving as the Pomona city manager in January

2020. Prior to coming to Pomona, Jim worked as the City Manager for the City of San Clemente (2014-2020) and Azusa (2012-2014). He worked as Deputy City Manager for the City of Downey in 2003-2005). He earned a BA and MPA from California State University, Long Beach. Pomona Assistant City Manager **Anita D. Gutierrez** is the Acting City Manager. Simi Valley City Manager **Brian Gabler**, 63, will retire at the end of June. Brian has worked for the City of Simi Valley for 38 years. The last four years he served as City Manager. Brian earned a BA from California State University, Northridge and an MPA from the University of Southern California (USC). He joined the Simi Valley city staff in 1986 as an Administrative Assistant. Brian went on to serve as Assistant to the City Manager, Deputy City Manager and Assistant City Manager. Brian is looking forward to retirement in Oregon. Lindsay City Manager **Joseph "Joe" M. Tanner, Jr.** has been on Administrative Leave since early December. Lindsay Recreation Services Director **Armando da Silva** was appointed Interim City Manager pending the conclusion of an investigation. Joe began his Lindsay tenure as City Manager in March 2020. Armando is a Cerritos High School graduate and earned an AA from Cerritos College and from College of the Sequoias, City of Hanford Leadership Academy. Prior to Lindsay, Armando worked for the cities of Artesia, Cerritos, Porterville, and Hanford. **Joe Tanner** previously held executive positions in the cities of San Ramon, Rio Vista, Desert Hot Springs, Town of Moraga, Port Hueneme, and Monterey Park. Mountain View City Manager **Kimbra McCarthy** introduced **Maxine Gullo** as the new Mountain View Human Resources Director. She previously served as the Assistant City Administrator for the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea. Maxine will start her new position with Mountain View on February 5. She worked positions for the cities that include Gilroy, Campbell, Sunnyvale, Los Gatos, and Fremont. She earned a BA from San Jose State University. Santa Clara City Manager **Jovan Grogan** was awarded a salary adjustment bringing his base salary up to \$418,220.76 annually. Jovan began his Santa Clara city manager tenure in May 2023. He previously served as the City Manager for the City of San Bruno (2018-2013) and he was the Deputy City Manager in Berkeley (2106-2018) and the city of Concord (2015-2016). He joined Concord in 2013 as the Budget Officer. Jovan earned a BA and master's degree in urban & regional planning from Cornell University. **George Watts**, a well-regarded high quality professional public manager, worked for the City of Arcadia for 22



An archive picture of retired Vista City Manager and former CCMF President **Rita Geldert**, **Anthony Gonslaves** and former State Fire Marshall **Dale Geldert**.

years, the last 11 years starting in 1981 as city manager. He resigned in early 1992 following an election that delivered two new city council members intent on changing city managers. George began his public service career in 1966 as an Intern for the City of Long Beach. In 1968, George took a similar position with the City of Commerce. He joined the city staff in the City of Arcadia in 1970 when he was hired as an Administrative Assistant. Following his Arcadia service, George was appointed City Manager in Indian Wells. He served in Indian Wells until his retirement in 2001. George earned a BA from California State University, Long Beach. George is a natural showman, musician, and singer. He and his blues band played in venues throughout Southern California. **Martin Piñon** is the new Interim City Manager for the City of California City. He takes the place of Interim City Manager **Michele Martinez**, who resigned January 2 for personal issues, including "fearing for her safety." Martin is the fifth city manager in California City this year. He is a former Human Resources Director for Desert Hot Springs. **Raul Alvarez**, 41, is the new city manager for the City of Montebello. Raul began his new position in November 2023 following the resignation of former City Manager **Rene Bobadilla** in May. Rene is now the City Manager for the City of Santa Fe Springs. Raul is a graduate of Montebello High School, and he earned a BA from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and an MPA from California State University, Long Beach. He previously served as Assistant City Manager for the cities of Huntington Park and Lynwood. He started his public service career as a Deputy to Los Angeles County Supervisor **Gloria Molina** and as the District Director and Senior Advisor to Assembly Member **Anthony Rendon**.

"The time to repair the roof is when the sun is shining."

--John F. Kennedy



Still More Pieces Picked Up: Veteran City Manager **David N. Carmany** is the new City of Rialto City Manager effective January 2024. David was the West Covina City Manager for nearly 5 years starting in April 2019. David previously served as city manager for the cities of La Puente (2014-2018), Manhattan Beach (2010-2013), Seal Beach (2007-2010), Pacificia (1997-2003), Malibu (1993-1997) and Agoura Hills (1987-1993). David worked as the Assistant City Manager in the City of Alhambra from 1981 to 1987, and Grand Terrace and Lancaster prior to that. He was a **PARS** Regional Manager from April 2003 until May 2007. Dave earned a BS and MPA from the University of Southern California (**USC**). Dave has been a participant in the "Proof of Life" program. In 2023 David received a 40-year ICMA Service Award. Former Lodi City Manager **Steve Schwabauer** came to the city in 1999 as Assistant City Attorney and became City Attorney in 2004 following **Randy Hays**. Steve became City Manager in the summer of 2014 taking over from former City Manager **Rad Bartlam**. Steve was hired as General Manager of the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District starting in October 2023. Assistant City Manager **Andrew Keys**, who joined the Lodi city staff in 2017, succeeded Steve as City Manager. Andrew previously worked for the City of Elk Grove. Brookings, Oregon City Manager **Janell Howard** negotiated a separation agreement with the city. The Council voted to terminate Janell and appoint Chief of Police **Kelby McCrae** to serve as Acting City Manager. Janell joined the Brookings city staff in July 2018. She has worked as the Finance and Human Resources Director and City Manager. Janell earned a BS in accounting from the University of Oregon. Brookings is located six miles northerly of the California border on U.S. Highway 101. Former Assistant City Manager in La Habra Heights (1991-1994) and La Puente (1994-1995), **Joe Perez**, who worked for the City of Paramount for nearly 17 years, and the cities of Bell (2012-2015), Lawndale (2015-2016) and South Gate (2016-2020), is the Community Development Director for the City of Jurupa Valley where he works with City Manager **Rod Butler**. Joe is a Lakewood High School graduate, and he earned a BA from the University of California, Los Angeles (**UCLA**).



SHORTS: *Benicia Vice Mayor **Terry Scott** is the new Chair of the Solano County Transit Board of Directors (SolTrans). *Huron Chief of Police **George Turegano** is retiring in May 2024. *Los Angeles Chief of Police **Michel Moore**, 63, who has been with the Department for more than 40 years, serving as Chief since 2018, will retire at

the end of the month. ***Daryl Parrish**, who retired as the Covina city manager and previously served as the

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Colton city manager, currently lives in Bend, Oregon. *Cupertino City Manager **Pamela Wu** previously worked for Santa Clara County, Gilroy, and San Bruno before she started in Cupertino in August 2022. ***Anthony Mata**, San Jose Chief of Police, is set to retire in March and become the Bureau Chief for the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office. *Salinas Police Chief **Roberto Filice** has resigned to take a position with the East Bay Regional Park District as Assistant General Manager of Public Safety and Police Chief. *Coronado Chief of Police since 2018, **Charles "Chuck" Kaye** has retired. *Atwater Police Lieutenant **William Novetzke** earned a BS in criminal justice management from Union Institute & University. *Hanford City Manager **Mario Cifuentez** announced that Hanford has its first female Chief of Police in **Stephanie Huddleston**, who earned an MS in criminology from California State University, Fresno. ***Michael Gerken** replaced the retired **Ray Gayk**, who served as Ontario Fire Chief since 2018, as the City of Ontario's 33rd Fire Chief. ***James Makshanoff** is being paid \$600,000 in severance, twice his annual salary, as he leaves his position as City Manager for the City of Pomona. *Former Antioch City Manager **Ron Bernal** will be on the ballot as a candidate for Mayor. ***David Doyle** became the City of Aliso Viejo city manager following the resignation of City Manager **Mark Pulone**, who left to become the City Manager for the City of Yorba Linda. *Jurupa Valley, where **Rod Butler** is City Manager, was incorporated in 2011 and has a population of 107,000. ***Stephanie Dietz**, former Merced city manager, is the new Executive Director of the Community Foundation of Merced County. *According to the U. S. Census Bureau, between 2021 and 2022, roughly 818,000 residents moved out of California. ***Jim Madaffer**, a former member of the San Diego City Council, is owner of the Julian Farm and Orchard. ***Michele Martinez**, who served 12 years on the Santa Ana City Council and is a Commissioner on the California Transportation Commission, was the Interim City Manager for the City of California City for 10 weeks. *After serving in the U.S. Military (1955-1959), **Leonard L. Whorton** began his local government career in 1963 as an Intern in Fresno and he retired as the County Administrator for Sonoma County in 1985. *Retired City Manager **Michael Sakamoto** worked with **C. Raymond Wood** of the Alexander Grant Company before beginning his city government service career.***