



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

August 2024

Volume No. 17 | Issue No. 11

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



This group of retired city managers participated at the June 2024 "Proof of Life" lunch at the North Woods Inn Restaurant in La Mirada. L to R is **Bud Ovrom, Bill Crowe, Denise Ovrom, Michael Egan** and **Jim DeStefano**. The next "Proof of Life" lunch will be held at the same venue on Thursday, September 19, 2024. Those interested in attending should inquire at:

jack@trackdownmanagement.net

Northern Californian interested should contact
Rod Wood at rodjwood@gmail.com

Public Managers in California "C" Cities with Names from Carson to Chico

Cities included in the August 2024 issue of the City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown are cities listed alphabetically, including: [Carson](#), [Cathedral City](#), [Ceres](#), [Cerritos](#), and [Chico](#). The unincorporated communities of Caruthers, Castro Valley, Castroville, Cayucos and Chester fall within this alphabetical group too. The five cities here include city managers **David C. Roberts, Jr.**; **Charlie McClendon**; **Doug Dunford**; **Robert A. Lopez**; and **Mark Sorensen**. These cities are found in the counties of Los Angeles, Riverside, Stanislaus, and Butte. **Andy Pickett** is the Chief Administrative Officer for Butte County where the city of [Oroville](#) is the county seat. **Jody L. Hayes** is the Chief Executive Officer for Stanislaus County, where [Modesto](#) is the county seat.

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

Public Managers in California “C” Cities with Names from Carson to Chico

California’s fifth most populous unincorporated area is Castro Valley. Castro Valley is named for **Don Guillermo Castro**, an early California rancher. Castro Valley is in Alameda County.



Carson, California is a South Bay Los Angeles County community. The city is named for **George Henry Carson**, who married a daughter of the Dominguez family in 1857 and managed the local rancho. Oil was discovered in Carson with the first well drilling in Dominguez Hill in 1921. The City of Carson was not incorporated until February 1968. The city’s 2020 population is 95,558. The city manager for the City of Carson is **David C. Roberts, Jr.** and **Robert Lennox** and **John S. Raymond** are Assistant City Managers. **Dr. Khaleah K. Bradshaw** is the **Carson** City Clerk.



Retired Walnut city manager **Rob Wishner** and his wife Shelly on a 2024 vacation walk around Paris, France.

David C. Roberts is the city manager for the City of Carson served as a Human Resources Specialist in the United States Army from April 2000 to April 2005. Once he left the military at Fort Irwin, David was a planner for a railway in Barstow. In May 2007, he joined the San Bernardino city staff as a Human Resources Analyst, and he worked in that post for more than 5 years. In November 2012, David was hired as the Director of Human Resources for the City of Hawthorne, and he became the Hawthorne Assistant City Manager in July 2014. In June 2018, David was appointed Assistant City Manager for the City of Carson, and in February 2022 he was elevated to City Manager. David earned a BA in sociology from California State University, Long Beach.



USI has developed sophisticated employee benefit programs for public entities for more than 30-years.

USI helps agencies design innovative benefit solutions and provide benefit education to bargaining units.

The power of **USI**, and its ability to bring best-in-class solutions and services to clients and communities, is achieved through the collective knowledge and experience of professionals coming together as ONE.



For more information contact **Gary Delaney** at (424) 390-0010 or gary.delaney@usi.com

Pam Rodrigues, GBDS Manager
Pamela.rodrigues@usi.com
USI Insurance Services

21250 Hawthorne Blvd., Suite 380
Torrance, CA 90503



Kristine Guerrero joined the League of California Cities' staff in May 2005 working in the Los Angeles County Division. Congratulations to Kris!

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
- Joe Goeden**, Retired City Manager, West Sacramento

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
- Jim Lewis**, City Manager, City of Atascadero
- Donald Jeffers**, Retired City Manager, Huntington Park
- Wayne Wedin**, Retired City Manager, Brea



RICHARDS WATSON GERSHON

RWG is committed to excellence in the legal profession. The lawyers of choice for clients seeking reliable, efficient, and effective legal counsel.

RWG delivers practical advice and solutions tailored to the unique needs of public entities.



Working seamlessly across offices in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Orange County, Temecula, and the Central Coast. The **RWG** team of experts provides the full scope of public law services. Practical advice and well-analyzed solutions come from listening carefully and asking the right questions.

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



Former City Administrator
Wesley Wolf, Founder
 Telephone: 949-235-0525
 FAX: 213-741-0519

Wolf & Company Inc. provides municipal consulting services to State and local governments, and not-for-profit corporations.

Wolf & Company Inc. has a specialized emphasis on: Mobile Home Park Acquisitions-Program Administration and Oversight Agent Services.



Wolf & Company Inc.

163 Limestone Road, Claremont, CA 91711
 Telephone: 949-235-0525



City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown Management

10 Claret
 Rancho Mirage, California 92270

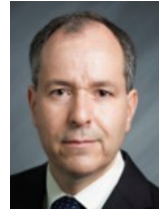
Cell Phone: Jack Simpson | 562-896-5424
 Cell Phone: Susan Simpson | 310-418-1035



Retired veteran city manager **Doug Dunlap** and his dog Val, enjoying a walk in Pismo Beach while staying a few nights at the Dolphin Bay Resort.

Public Managers in California “C” Cities with Names from Carson to Chico

E. Fredrick Bien served as the Carson City Administrator from 1968 until February 1982. Fred began his public service career working for Pittsburg, Kansas (1950-1951). He started as the city manager for Puyallup, Washington in June 1951. Fred came to California in 1955 to be the city manager for Monterey Park. He moved to the Norwalk city manager position in 1957 and earned a reputation for his professionalism. After his Norwalk tenure ended in 1968, Fred took the City of Carson job in 1982 and served there until 1982. After leaving Carson he took Interim City Manager assignments in Westlake Village (1981-1982); San Fernando (1982); Agoura Hills (1982-1983); West Hollywood (1984-1985); and Santa Clarita (1987-1988). Fred earned a BS and MPA from the University of Kansas. He retired in 1988.



Expert Public Agency Legal Services. Committed to counsel that is helpful, understandable, and fairly priced.

CH&W has offices in Pasadena and Grass Valley in the Sierra Foothills,

CH&W represents both public and private clients throughout California in municipal law.

Michael Colantuono is Managing Shareholder, and currently is City Attorney for the City of Grass Valley.

Two of the firm's attorneys were named California Lawyers of the Year (2020).

<https://chwlaw.us/>

Call telephone No. 530-432-7357; 213-542-5700; 916-400-0370; 858-682-3665 or 707-986-8091

COLANTUONO | HIGHSMITH | WHATLEY, PC



This gym is a place where strength training is used for self-improvement. Special group sessions for sports teams, police and fire departments or other groups may be arranged.



Raw Performance
Coach/Owner, **William Ha**, CSCS is a certified strength and conditioning coach.

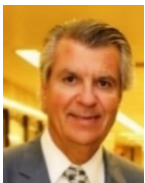
Call: 714-335-4436 | 10579
Bloomfield Avenue
Los Alamitos, CA 90720



Joe Gonsalves said: "Lobbyist are like parachutes; you don't need them often but when you do, they had better work."

Anthony D. Gonsalves and two of his sons, **Jason A. Gonsalves** and **Paul A. Gonsalves**, are expert local government lobbyists. Founded in 1975 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



Joe A. Gonsalves & Son
925 L Street, Suite 250
Sacramento, California 95814
Telephone No. 916-441-0597
Fax: 916-441-5061

Taylor Gonsalves Joins Joe A. Gonsalves & Son



As noted in the July issue, **Jason Gonsalves'** daughter **Taylor Gonsalves** has joined the firm as Communications Director. Taylor is the fourth generation Gonsalves "to work in and around the State Capitol and will be working for the firm while completing her Juris Doctorate at McGeorge School of Law.

You may reach Taylor at 916-441-5061.



The city manager serves at the pleasure of the City Council," explains veteran City Manager **E. Frederick Bien** of Carson, Norwalk and Monterey Park.

Public Managers in California "C" Cities with Names from Carson to Chico



Cathedral City

Cathedral City is a city in Riverside County situated between Palm Springs and Rancho Mirage. The city's name is from Cathedral Canyon in the foothills of the city.

The city was incorporated in November 1981. The 2020 population is 51,493. **Charlie McClendon** is the city manager and **Tracey R. Hermosillo** is the City Clerk. **Anne Ambrose** is the Assistant City Manager; **George Crum** is the Chief of Police; **Michael A. Contreras** is the Fire Chief; **Kevin Beirsack** is the Financial Services Director; **John Corella** is the Director of Public Works; **Andrew A. Firestine** is the Director of Community and Economic Development; and **Ryan Hunt** is the communications and Events Manager. **Armando Baldizzone** is the City Engineer.

City Manager **Charlie McClendon** of Cathedral City, began his city government career in August 1985 in the City of Glendale, Arizona. In September 2002, Charlie left his Management & Budget Director post to join the City of Avondale as Assistant City Manager. In November 2004, Charlie was elevated to the Avondale City Manager position. Charlie came to Cathedral City, California as City Manager in March 2014. He earned a BA from Ottawa University and an MPA from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.



Anne V. Ambrose is the Cathedral City Assistant City Manager. Anne served as the Palmdale Director of Public Safety and Community Relations from June 1999 to August 2013, when she was appointed Director of Administrative

Services. She took the California City Interim City Manager position in June 2021. She came to Cathedral City as Assistant City Manager in January 2023. Anne earned a BA from Kent State University and an MPA from California State University, Northridge.

Public Managers in California “C” Cities with Names from Carson to Chico



Ceres is in the County of Stanislaus as part of the Modesto metropolitan statistical area. **John Service**, **Cassius Warner** and **Daniel Whitmore** were among the first non-native families to live in Ceres in

1867. Ceres was incorporated in February 1918. The 2020 population is set at 49,302. **Doug Dunford** is the current Ceres City Manager, and **Fallon Martin** is the City Clerk. **Joey Chavez** is the Recreation Manager, and **Shannon Esenwein** is the Director of Finance. **Lea Simvoulakis** is the Community Development Director and **Chris Perry** is the Chief of Police. The Human Resources Director is **Delilah Vasquez**, and **Lee Simvouladkis** is the Community Development Director.



Ceres City Manager **Doug Dunford** began his public service career as a Deputy Sheriff for Los Angeles County in September 1978. In October 1989 he took a position as a Police Officer for the City of Turlock. After working as a Captain for the railroad police (1993-2002) in San Bernardino, he was appointed Chief of Police for the City of Escalon. He was the Chief of Police for the Livingston Police Department in 2010-2011 and took the Chief's post for the Gustine Police Department in March 2011. After nearly 7 years as Chief, Doug was appointed City Manager for Gustine. In 2022, Doug served a few months as the City Manager for California City before taking the Ceres city manager appointment starting in May 2023. Doug earned a BASc from Azusa Pacific University and an MA from Bellevue University.

Former City Manager **Alex Terrazas** came to Ceres in 2022 after serving as Los Banos City Manager (2016-2021) and as Assistant Town Manager for Truckee. Alex started as a member of the staff of the League of California Cities. He earned a BA and MPA from California State University, Sacramento.



The “Traveling Angel Fan” **Gonzalo Vazquez**, a retired city of Cypress Water Utility Manager, is seen here with “Mr. Cub” **Ernie Banks** at a Cubs game in Chicago.



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**.

HdL Companies provide revenue enhancement, technology, and consulting services. **HdL's** team of professionals currently serves more than 600 agencies nationwide.

HdL Companies offers support services and software that includes sales, use and transactions taxes, economic development, property taxes, business license fees, transient occupancy tax, short-term rental compliance, rent control, indirect cost recovery, utility users tax, and cannabis regulation and taxation.

120 South State College Boulevard, Suite 200
Brea, California
Telephone 888-861-0220



Founded in 1986 by former City Manager **Larry J. Kosmont**, Chairman and CEO. **2021 CCMF Corporate Partner of the Year.**

Kosmont Companies serves cities, counties, quasi-government agencies, private companies, developers, and non-profit organizations, including educational institutions across California. With unmatched expertise in public/private transactions,

Kosmont Companies helps communities thrive by creating sustainable projects.

Kosmont Companies is on the cutting edge of evolving trends, challenges, and solutions. A transactional firm that takes a hands-on approach to economic development focused on successful outcomes. The firm is an expert in economic development, real estate consulting, financial analysis, and redevelopment dissolution.

Mailing Address: 1601 N. Sepulveda Blvd., #382, Manhattan Beach, California 90266

Headquarters – El Segundo: 2301 Rosecrans Avenue Suite 4140, El Segundo, California 90245 Telephone: 424-297-1070 | Fax: 424-286-4632

California Contract Cities Association



Jennifer Perez of Norwalk, President
Brenda Olmos of Paramount, Vice President
Marcel Rodarte Executive Director

17315 Studebaker Road, Suite 210
Cerritos, California 90703
Telephone No. 562-622-5533

“Don’t be afraid to take advice. There’s always something new to learn.”
--Babe Ruth

Public Managers in California “C” Cities with Names from Carson to Chico

Tom Westbrook worked for the city of Ceres for more than 20 years. He joined the city staff as an Associate Planner in January 2001 and began working his way up in the organization. Tom became the Senior Planner in February 2005; Planning/Building Division Manager in July 2010; and Director of Community Development in November 2012. Tom was selected to serve as the Ceres city manager starting in April 2020. He joined the City of Red Bluff as Community Development Director in September 2021. Tom was appointed Red Bluff city manager in May 2022. He earned a BA from California State University, Chico.

Shannon Esenwein has served as the Ceres Director of Finance since November 2023. She previously worked as the Chief Finance and Operations Office for the Stanislaus County Community Services Agency (2020-2023). Shannon was the Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation for Stanislaus County from November 2019 to December 2020. She earned an AA degree from San Joaquin Delta College and a BS from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.



MMASC is one of the oldest and largest Association of its kind in the United States.

Greg Kwolek, Morro Bay, President
Jonathan Royas, Santa Paula, Vice President
Joseph Cisneros, La Palma, Director of Finance/Treasurer
Kristen Graham, Cypress, Director of Programming



Municipal Management Association of Northern California
Inspiring Local Government Leaders since 1950

Justin Lovell, West County Wastewater Dist., President
Candice Rankin Mumby, Walnut Creek, Vice President
Anthony Valdez, Bakersfield, Finance Director/Treasurer

Public Managers in California “C” Cities with Names from Carson to Chico



Cerritos, where there is only human made hills, was originally incorporated as Dairy Valley. The name “Cerritos,” is Spanish for “Little hills.” Cerritos is on land that was a portion of the Rancho Los Nietos land. Dairy Valley was

incorporated in April 1956 and omitted the area's major population which became the City of Artesia in 1959. Dairy Valley officially changed its name to the City of Cerritos in January 1967. Between 1970 and 1972, Cerritos was the fastest growing city in California. The 2020 population of Cerritos is 49,578.

Robert A. Lopez is the City Manager and **Kathy Matsumoto** is the Assistant City Manager. **Vida P. Barone** is the City Clerk and City Treasurer.

On August 31, 1986, Aeroméxico Flight 498 on a flight from Mexico City was preparing to land at Los Angeles International Airport. The plane was struck by a small Piper aircraft that had flown into a Control Tower Area without clearance from Air Traffic Control. The Piper made a crash landing onto the unoccupied playground field of Cerritos Elementary School's, but the Douglas DC-9 airliner crashed inverted (upside-down) and plowed into a dense Cerritos residential area, immediately destroying four houses. The resulting fire destroyed eight more houses before firefighters could bring the blaze under control. Eighty-two (82) people died, including 15 people on the ground.

Cerritos has been blessed with some highly professional city managers. **M. D. “Mac” McKeown** served as the first permanent Dairy Valley city manager in 1956. He went on to be city manager in Paramount, Norwalk and Artesia. **Bill Stark** was the city manager when the city began changing from a dairy community to a residential and commercial city in the early 1960s. After Bill, there was **John DeWeerd**, **Gaylord F. Knapp** and **Art Gallucci**. Some of the former Assistant City Managers include **Stan Morgan**, **Chris Rope**, **Jim Barisic**, and **Vince Brar**.



“There’s a lot of times that you got to put yourself out there to fail, you can’t be afraid to fail.”

---Clayton Kershaw



**PRESERVE OUR ENVIRONMENT.
STRENGTHEN OUR CITIES.**

MuniEnvironmental’s experienced professionals provide **solid waste** and **recycling** expertise that helps cities and other government agencies:

- Review, analyze and optimize rates and expenses
- Audit contract service providers
- Comply with regulatory requirements
- Implement commercial, organics and construction & demolition recycling programs

Jeff Duhamel, CEO/Principal Consultant
562-432-3700 | jeff@munienvironmental.com



Robert A. Lopez has worked for the City of Cerritos going on 23 years. He joined the city staff in February 2002 as a Planning Assistant, and he became an Associate Planner in 2002. Robert worked his way up in the department and he was hired as the Director of Community Development in September 2020, In January 2022, he took the Director of Public Works and Water & Power position, and with the retirement of City Manager **Art Gallucci**, he was elevated to City Manager in November 2023. Robert earned a BS in civil engineering from Stanford University and an MPA and MPL from the University of Southern California (**USC**).



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
 Financial & Policy Strategies. Delivered.
 Telephone: (415) 785-2025 x2001
 Cell: (415) 518-4130
 Email: Craig@NHAadvisors.com



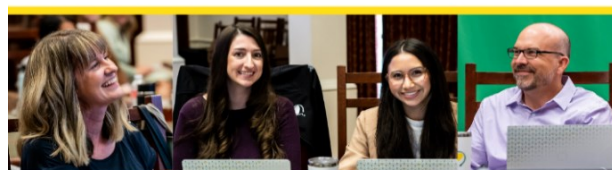
The Olson Company is a premier California builder of affordable new home communities. Since 1988, The Olson Company mission has been to work hand-in-hand with cities to solve the critical shortage of urban housing by promoting and investing in responsible development that improves quality of life for everyone. The company has successfully partnered with more than 100 cities since 1988.

Todd Olson
 President of Community Development
Telephone: 562-370-2209

The Olson Company
 562-370-2259
 562-430-4413 Fax
 3010 Old Ranch Parkway, Suite 100
 Seal Beach, CA 90740

Public Managers in California “C” Cities with Names from Carson to Chico

Recently retired Cerritos City Manager **Art Gallucci** began his city manager tenure in 1991 and retired at the end of June 2023. Art succeeded the 18-year tenure of City Manager **Gaylord F. Knapp**. Art worked for the city for 51 years, joining the city of Cerritos staff in 1971.



**Our Team.
 Your Communications.**

(626) 536-2173

TripepiSmith.com



The **Tripepi Smith** team stands ready to help with outreach campaigns, video production, content writing, messaging, graphic work, technology infrastructure and websites."
--Ryder Todd Smith, President



This is **Hazel Simpson**, at about 16 hours old, born in July 2024. Hazel's daddy is **Ethan Simpson**, a police officer for the city of Monterey. Congratulations to Ethan and Hazel's super mom **Whitney Simpson**.

Public Managers in California “C” Cities with Names from Carson to Chico



Chico, the largest city by population in Butte County, is the economic center of the northern Sacramento Valley. As the home to California State University, Chico, Chico is known as a college town. Chico was founded in 1860 by **John Bidwell**, who

arrived with the first wagon train to reach California in 1843. The Army established a local camp just outside of Chico during the Civil War under Brigadier General Bidwell. It was referred to as Camp Chico prior to the name of Fort Bidwell. The city of Chico was incorporated in January 1872. The city's 2020 population is set at 101,000. **Mark Sorensen** is the city manager and **Jennifer Macarthy** is the Deputy City Manager. **Deborah R. Presson** is the Chico City Clerk. **Barbara Martin** is the Administrative Services Director.

Chico's Bidwell Park is one of the largest municipal parks in the United States. The park was named a California Park and Recreation Society 2013 Regional Treasure. The park includes many hiking and mountain biking trails, picnic areas, swimming holes and beautiful vistas. **Anjie Goulding** is the Recreation Director for the Chico Area Park and Recreation District. Anjie has served as director since July 2021. She earned a BS and MS in kinesiology from California State University, Chico.



Retired city manager **Chris Jeffers** and the Mrs. at Angels' Stadium in Anaheim, and **Greg Korduner** with Mr. Padres in San Diego.



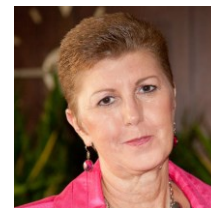
Jim L. Barisic, former Artesia City Manager who also worked in Cerritos and Paramount, and is a Viet Nam veteran, founded **Brandywine** in 1994.

Jim and two of his sons **Brett Whitehead** and **David Barisic**, and **Alex Hernandez**, the President of the Homebuilding Division, and **Mario Urzua**, the Chief Financial Officer are the **Brandywine Homes** executive team. Please check the firm's website for current sales!

Units are selling in Carson, La Verne, Artesia, and Whittier. Coming Soon are developments in: Santa Ana, El Monte, Artesia and Apartments in Riverside and Murrieta.

Brandywine Homes focuses on converting underutilized space into needed housing. Call **Brandywine** at 949-296-2400

Brandywine Homes Corporate Office
16580 Aston Street
Irvine, California 92606



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.

Jose Solache, ICFA President
Lynwood City Council Member

Independent Cities Finance Authority
Post Office Box No. 6740
Lancaster, California 93539-6740

Telephone No. 877-906-0941



A MUNICIPAL PARTNER YOU CAN COUNT ON

Founded in 1964, Willdan is a leading, nationwide provider of professional and consulting engineering services. We have worked with nearly 90% of California's cities and counties and have recently expanded our services across the country. With 1,500 employees in over 50 offices throughout 20+ states nationwide, we are ready to serve you!

Willdan is a trusted partner for municipalities, with solutions including:

- Building & Safety
- City Engineering
- Construction Management & Inspection
- Design Engineering
- Planning
- Geotechnical

Other Services Include: Energy & Sustainability, Financial & Economic Analysis, Transportation Electrification, Microgrids, and Smart Cities

At Willdan, we lead with our people!
Meet our management team by clicking [here](#):



Vanessa Munoz, PE, TE
President and CEO, Engineering
562.447.6844
vmunoz@willdan.com



Adel Freij, PE
Director of City Engineering
562.760.7752
afreij@willdan.com

www.willdan.com

Public Managers in California “C” Cities with Names from Carson to Chico

Mark Sorensen began his Chico city manager tenure in July 2022. He previously worked as the City Administrator and Finance & Utility Director for Biggs. He served 8 years as an elected member of the Chico city council, from December 2010 to 2018. He began his working career in the private sector. In 2022 he received a 10 Year ICMA Service Award.



Bud and Denise Ovrom hosted a 2024 Summer Party at their Burbank home. Among to party goers were eight former city managers including (L to R) **Phil Hawkey** (Pasadena); **Jim Starbird** (Monrovia, West Covina and Glendale); **Lloyd de Llamas** (Monterey Park, Lawndale and Woodlake); **Bud Ovrom** (Monrovia, Downey and Burbank), **Denise Ovrom** (Temple City); **Paul Arevalo** (West Hollywood); **Mike Flad** (Ukiah, Monrovia, Burbank and South Gate); and **Scott Mitnick** (Thousand Oaks, El Segundo and Moraga). Thanks for the photo Ovroms.



Jennifer Macarthy has served as the Chico Deputy City Manager since June 2021. Jennifer previously worked as a Deputy Administrative Officer for Community & Economic Development with Butte County (June 2020-April 2021). She worked as a Deputy Administrative Officer for Butte County from February 2004 to October 2016. After those nearly 13 years, she worked in the private sector and as a Career and Technical Education Grants and Regional Projects Director for Butte College (2018-2020). She earned a BA in economics from Santa Clara University.

Chester is an unincorporated community on State Route 36 that was formerly known as Big Medows, California. Chester is in Plumas County on Lake Almanor, north of the town of Quincy. A post office opened in Chester in 1894. A memorable steak dinner was had in a Chester restaurant during a 1950s Simpson Family road trip.



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 served as city manager in the Cities of Paramount and Long Beach.

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.

Telephone No. 562-331-9812



Public Managers in California “C” Cities with Names from Carson to Chico

Former Chico Assistant City Manager **Patricia A. Dunlap** retired July 2018 at the age of 56. Trish started with the city as a secretary in the City Clerk's office in 1976. She built a stellar reputation as she rose in the organization. She took an Administrative Technician position in June 1979 and in January 1982 she was selected to serve as the Chico Assistant City Manager. Trish earned a BA and MPA from California State University. In 2002, she received a 25 Year ICMA Service Award.

Mark A. Orme served as the Chico City Manager between July 2014 and April 2022. He began his public service career working on the political side as a Field Representative to Congressman Sonny Bono (1995-1998) and a District Representative to Congresswoman May Bono (1998-1999). His first city government position was Assistant City Manager for the City of Hemet in 1999. While in Hemet he worked for a time as Interim City Manager. In April 2013 he moved to Northern California to be the Assistant City Manager for Chico. In June 2014 he was tapped to be Interim City Manager and in July 2014 he was appointed City Manager. Since November 2022, Mark has served as the Eastvale City Manager. Mark earned a BA from the University of California, Riverside and an MBA from the University of Redlands. Mark is an ICMA Credentialed Manager and in 2019 he received a 20 Year ICMA Service Award.

Dr. Tom Lando served as the Chico, California City Manager from July 1992 until 2006. Tom came to municipal government in August 1977 as a Planner in the City of Visalia. In June 1980, Tom was hired to be the Chico Planning Director and he served in that post until October 1985 when he became the Community Services Director. Tom was selected to serve as the Chico City Manager in July 1992. He earned a BA from the University of Pacific, two Masters degrees from Ohio State University and a Doctorate in Public Administration from the University of Southern California (**USC**).



Cellular Absorbtion Supplements



<https://casesimpson.iii.earth>



Friday, August 16, 2024 is the application deadline for the annual CCMF New & Future City Managers Seminar. This year at the Westin Pasadena.

Thomas G. Mauk

(October 21, 1943 – June 8, 2024)

Former Norco, Whittier and La Habra City Manager **Thomas G. Mauk** passed away on June 8 at the age of 80. Tom was born in Carson City, Nevada. After moving with his family to Santa Rosa, Tom moved south to attend classes at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, where he earned his BS. Tom also earned an MPA from the University of Southern California (**USC**). Tom began his public service career with the City of Los Angeles where he started as an Administrative Analyst in February 1967. Tom was hired as the Assistant City Manager for Montclair in July 1970, and he was selected to be the Norco City Manager in April 1976. He took the Whittier City Manager position starting in October 1980, and the City Manager post in La Habra starting in December 1999. Following some private side assignments, Tom became the County Executive Officer for Orange County. He served in that position from October 2004 until August 2012. Tom received a 40 Year ICMA Service Award in 2009. He served as the President of the City Managers' Department of the League of California Cities in 1996-1997, and he was a member of the ICMA Executive Board as a Regional Vice President from 1997 to 2000.

Jerry Miller

(1949 – 2024)

Truthfully, it was stunned helplessness on our end when **Pat West** delivered the heartbreaking news of Jerry's passing. Former Long Beach City Manager **Jerry Miller** passed away on Saturday, July 27, 2024 at his East Long Beach home at the age of 75. As **Jim Hankla** said, "never met anyone" who didn't like Jerry. In January 1978, Jerry went to work for Long Beach as the Director of Youth Services, and in January 1980 he took a Director position with the administration of California State University, Long Beach. From January 1982 until December 1983 Jerry was the University's Job Programs Director. He took a Training & Employment Developer Officer post for the City of Long Beach in January 1988. Jerry became the Manager of the Long Beach Economic Development Bureau, and in January 1998, Jerry started his tenure as the Long Beach Assistant City Manager. He became City Manager in May 2003 and retired in July 2007. Jerry earned a BA from California State University, Long Beach. In 2003 he received a 20 Year ICMA Service Award. City Manager **Tom Modica** said that Jerry "...looked for common sense solutions and took pride in excellent customer service and amazing City services to residents."



Providing innovative risk management solutions for its public agency partners for more than 45 years, the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority (California JPIA) is one of the largest municipal self-insurance pools in the state, with more than 125 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 training and loss control services.



Alexander Smith
Chief Executive Officer

California Joint Powers Insurance Authority

cjpia.org | info@cjpia.org | (562) 467-8700

PARS PUBLIC AGENCY RETIREMENT SERVICES

For more than 40 years PARS has provided retirement plans and trust solutions designed exclusively for public agencies. With programs like the **Pension Rate Stabilization Program (PRSP)** and the **PARS OPEB Trust**, PARS has helped over 500 clients address unfunded obligations and lower liabilities. The PRSP is a first-of-its-kind program designed to provide local control over assets and potential for greater return than the general fund. With innovative retirement solutions tailored to the unique needs of each agency,

PARS is a leading provider of retirement programs for public agencies and the largest private provider of multiple-employer Section 115 trusts in California. Learn more at www.pars.org. To learn more, contact us at info@pars.org or (800) 540-6369, ext. 127; www.pars.org

Dennis Yu, CEBS, Executive Vice President

(800) 540-6369 ext. 104 or dyu@pars.org



Independent Cities Finance Authority provides local government, nonprofits and other agencies the clout they need to finance important projects that help address California's housing crisis.

Since its inception in 1988, ICFA has helped fund more than \$500 million in critical community projects. Member cities pay no enrollment fees to join or ongoing dues to participate. All underwriting and operational costs are borne by the beneficiaries of the funds.

The ICFA offers member cities many benefits. Through bond funding, the Authority helps create homebuyer assistance programs, generates funds for capital improvements and aids communities in economic development. It is important to learn all about **The Authority** and the benefits it offers.

Independent Cities Financing Authority is an unaffiliated joint powers authority with the ability to help cities achieve their goals.

With bonding arranged through The Authority, local governments can help finance the purchase of single-family and multi-family residential properties, including manufactured home communities, to provide new, more affordable housing alternatives.

Ownership and operation of these alternative housing solutions can be vested in local nonprofit.

The Authority also helps fund a variety of capital improvements for municipalities, schools, special districts, and Mello-Roos facilities, as well as projects impacting the economic development of a community.

ICFA President: **Jose Solache**
Vice President/Treasurer: **Gil Hurtado**

Manufactured Home Communities: In today's troubled housing market, the need for more affordable housing solutions is clear. Learn how The Authority has helped member cities and local non-profit organizations acquire and manage manufactured home communities. [More...](#)

Bond Funding Programs: The Authority is empowered to purchase multi-family residential projects, including manufactured home communities. Find out how your community can address the need for affordable local housing through ICFA's innovative funding programs.

Capital Improvement Programs: Now cities can fund capital projects and equipment acquisition at a lower cost with help from The Authority. Working in cooperation with major banks, ICFA can provide funding at favorable rates. Find out more here.

The Authority can help communities create the infrastructure and acquire the equipment needed to create a better quality of life for their citizens.

Working in partnership with major financial institutions The Authority can provide bond funding and equipment leasing for major projects for municipalities, schools, special districts and local agencies, including Mello-Roos.

For information on how The Authority can tailor a financing package to meet your specific needs, contact us today!

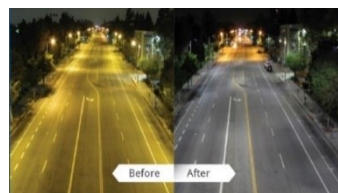


For more information, please contact:

Independent Cities Finance Authority

Ms. Debbie Smith

Post Office Box No. 6740
Palmdale, California 93539-6740
(877) 906-0941



In partnership with experienced energy solutions providers, ICFA created a Municipal Street Lighting Program to help cities economize by taking control of their lighting utilities.



Englander Knabe & Allen (EKA) is one of the leading strategic communications and public affairs firms in Southern California. Partners Matt Knabe, Marcus Allen, Eric Rose, Jeff McConnell, Adam Englander, Alex Cherin and Kellie Hawkins lead it. We pride ourselves on providing a unique and strategic perspective on a wide variety of issues.

EKA provides lobbying, government affairs, public relations, political campaigns, and crisis management services for a wide variety of clientele. In addition, **EKA** provides professional litigation communication and expert witness services led by our team of strategists, lawyers, journalists, and media relations specialists.



Together, **EKA** has more than 100-years of combined experience and a multitude of relationships within the City & County of Los Angeles, and the 88 cities within Los Angeles County.

To contact **EKA**, please call 213) 741-1500 or email matt@ekapr.com. **Matt Knabe**, Managing Partner.



Picking Up the Pieces: Former San Bernardino City Manager **Robert Field** has been hired as the new city manager for the City of Medford, Oregon. Bob served as the San Bernardino city manager from September 2020 until January 2023. Prior to that, he worked as the Assistant County

Executive Officer in Economic Development for the County of Riverside (January 1999 to February 2020). Bob earned a BA in history from the University of California, Riverside and an MA in leadership and organizational studies from California Baptist University. Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney **Brian Schirn** is speaking out about District Attorney **George Gascón's** alleged bias against the Jewish community. Despite numerous antisemitic incidents in Los Angeles since October 7, 2023, Brian and many others in the District Attorney's office are concerned about the lack of charges being filed when the victim is Jewish. The District Attorney's Office says that they condemn all forms of hatred, including antisemitism. Former Central Contra Costa Sanitary District Director of Engineering and Technical Services, **Jean-Marc Petit** is the new General Manager for the Ironhouse Sanitary District. He has been working on the private side since leaving the Contra Costa district. Jean-Marc earned a BS and MS in civil engineering from Colorado State University. Former Fountain Valley City Manager **Robert Hall**, 64, passed away this month following a battle with cancer. He served as the Fountain Valley city manager from August 2013 to March 2017. After leaving Fountain Valley, Bob served as Interim City Manager for the cities of Stanton (2018-2019) and Laguna Niguel (2019). Prior to joining Fountain Valley, he was the Director of General Services for the City of Riverside (2000-2005) and Assistant City Manager for Huntington Beach (2005-2013). Bob earned a BA and an MPA from California State University, San Bernardino. Former Fremont city manager **Mark Danaj**, 55, has been expelled from membership in the International City/County Management Association (ICMA). Mark is facing criminal embezzlement charges. He was ordered to repay a six-figure severance payment. The city claims that Mark used a city credit card to pay thousands of dollars in personal expenses. The judge who sentenced Mark has ruled that he is never allowed to again hold public office in California. **Whitney McDonald**, former Arroyo Grande city manager, is the new city manager for the City of San Luis Obispo. Whitney replaces City Manager **Derek Johnson**, who left the city in April. Whitney has served as the San Luis Obispo Assistant City Manager sine August 2023. She was the Arroyo Grande city manager for nearly 3 years starting in September 2020. She has previous experience as a Senior Attorney with **Richards Watson & Gershon (RWG)**. Whitney earned a BA from the University of California, Santa Barbara and a Juris Doctor (JD) from the University of California, Los Angeles (**UCLA**).



Visit the men and women of **RAW Performance** in Los Alamitos and structure a strength & conditioning program. 714-335-4436





More Pieces Picked Up: Charles R. Ching, the City of San Pablo Director of Economic Development, Housing, and Sustainability, has been selected for the position of Assistant City Manager for the City of Walnut Creek. City Manager **Dan Buckshi** announced that Charles

was chosen from more than 200 applicants. Charles worked for US Bank from 2006 to 2007 and joined the Fairfield city staff in May 2007 as a Senior Economic Development Project Manager. He was hired by the City of San Pablo in June 2014 to be the Assistant to the City Manager, and he worked his way up to an appointment to the Assistant City Manager position in March 2021. He worked for San Pablo for a little more than 10 years. Charles earned a BAs in management of financial institutions and economics from De La Salle University, and an MBA from Saint Mary's College of California. **Linda Smith** is the new City of Orinda City Manager. Linda is currently the City Manager for the City of Dublin. She is expected to begin her Orinda responsibilities in October 2024. Dublin city Manager **Linda Smith D'Ambrosio** will retire in October. Linda joined the Dublin city staff in 2009 as the Assistant to the City Manager, and she was appointed Assistant City Manager in 2013. She became the Dublin city manager in 2019. Linda is a past Chair of the Alameda County City Manager Association. She is the President-elect of the Dublin Rotary Club. Linda earned a BA in public relations from San Jose State University. Prior to Dublin she held positions in the cities of Tracy and Brentwood. Orange County's Chief Financial Officer **Michelle Aguirre** is the new Interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO) replacing CEO **Frank Kim**, who is retiring. Michelle has worked as the county's CFO for nearly a decade. She appears to have the support of the Orange County Employees Association. **John B. Wentz** passed away on Wednesday, July 2, 2003, at the age of 83. John served as city manager for the cities of Beverly Hills (1952-1963); Riverside (1963-1970); Phoenix Arizona; and Stockton (1979-1980). He also worked as the General Manager for San Francisco Public Utilities (1977-1979). He began his public service John is a past National President of ICMA, serving in 1968, while he worked for Riverside. John earned a BCE from Iowa State University and an MPA from the University of Southern California (**USC**). **Marissa Trejo** is the new city manager for the City of Lemoore. Marissa has served as the Coalinga city manager since 2015. She began her public service career in 2004 when she went to work for Kings County as an employment & training worker. She became a Human Resources Analyst for the City of Coalinga in 2006. Marissa earned a BA in organizational leadership and an MS in human resources from Chapman University. She also earned an AA from Lemoore College. South Pasadena City Manager **Arminé Chaparyan** has resigned effective July 2. South Pasadena Chief of Police **Brian Solinsky** and Community Services Director **Sheila Pautsch** are serving as "co-acting

city managers." **Kristine Guerrero** is promoted to the position of Public Affairs Director for the League of California Cities. Kris has worked for the League going on 20 years, joining the League staff in May 2005. She has worked in the Los Angeles office as the Public Affairs Manager and Legislative Director. Kris earned a BA in political science and government from the University of California, Los Angeles (**UCLA**) and an MPA from the University of Southern California (**USC**).



SHORTS: *In April 1985, **Paul D. Brotzman** became the first city manager for the City of West Hollywood and took over from the Interim City Manager **Fred Bien**. ***Chris Freeland**, Indian Wells city manager, has earned the Credentialed Manager designation by the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) to become one of 104 ICMA credentialed managers in California. *Manhattan Beach Community Development Director **Talyn Mirzakhanian** is the new Acting City Manager for Manhattan Beach. *San Jose City Manager **Jennifer Maguire** has promoted, 20 year city veteran who joined the city staff in 2004, **Jennifer Schembri** to Deputy City Manager after a nationwide recruitment. *Lifelong San Diegan and Deputy Fire Chief **Robert Logan** is the new San Diego Fire-Rescue Department Chief taking over for the retired Chief **Colin Stowell**. ***Tina Gallegos**, the Fremont Human Resources Director, began her public service career in August 2003 as an Assistant Planner for the City of Union City. *Anaheim agreed to pay \$2.75 million settlement to Major League Baseball owner of the Angels, **Arte Moreno** and the team following the cancelling by the city of a sale of Angel Stadium. ***Jimmy Forbis**, former Finance Director, has been the City Administrator for the City of Gilroy since March 2020, serving as Interim City Administrator until October 2020. *Former San José Recreation Supervisor (2007-2011), **Kiersten McCormick** is the General Manager at the Happy Hollow Park & Zoo in the City of San José. ***Lori Ann Farrell Harrison**, Costa Mesa city manager since July 2019, previously served as President of the Port of Long Beach (2013-2019), while she was the Huntington Beach Assistant City Manager (2017-2019). *Former **Tripepi Smith** Business Analyst **Shannon O'Hare** is the Assistant to the City Manager in the City of Larkspur working with City Manager **Dan Schwarz**. *Former Ventura City Manager **Ed McCombs** passed away on June 28 at the age of 90. *Former **Tripepi Smith** Business Analyst and Public CEO Managing Editor, **Jacob Lyle** served two years (2019-2021) as a Police Cadet for the Ventura Police Department. *Murrieta Assistant City Manager **Kristen Mignone Crane** worked for the cities of Glendale, Claremont, Citrus Heights, Poway and Del Mar before joining the Murrieta city staff. ***Thomas Leung** is the new Finance Director for the Town of Los Altos Hills. *Former Nuclear Biochemist, **Paolo Beltran** is the Deputy City Manager for the City of Lakewood, working with City Manager **Thaddeus McCormack**. ***