

City Manager Newsletter By TRACKDOWN MANAGEMENT

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



September 2025 Special

Volume No. 19 | Issue No. 13

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This archive picture is of retired city manager **Troy Brown** of Moorpark, former Stockton Deputy City Manager **Laurie Montes** and retired Fairfield city manager **Kevin O'Rourke** of KOLGS consulting. Starting in 1994, Troy worked for the cities of Santa Clarita, Riverside, Elk Grove and Livermore before becoming the city manager in Tracy in 2014. He was Moorpark city manager from March 2018 until his June 2025 retirement. Troy served as President of the ICMA Executive Board in 2021-2022. Laurie left Stockton in April 2020 after more than 29 years with the city. Before retiring, Kevin worked for the cities of Stanton, Buena Park and Fairfield.

California Managers in Cities from Larkspur to Lemoore

This Special September 2025 issue of the City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown includes information regarding the cities of Larkspur, Lathrop, Lawndale, Lemon Grove, and Lemoore. This grouping includes a city in Kings County, Lemoore; one in Los Angeles County, Lawndale; a city in Marin County, Larkspur; one in San Joaquin County, Lathrop and one in San Diego County, Lemon Grove.

City Managers in this group include **Dan Schwarz** in Larkspur, **Stephen Salvatore** in Lathrop, **Dr. Sean Moore** in Lawndale, **Lydia Romero** in Lemon Grove, and **Marissa Trejo** in the city of Lemoore. **Hdl Companies'** found **Lloyd de Llamas** is a former Lawndale city manager.

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California Managers in Cities from Larkspur to Lemoore



Larkspur is a city in Marin County southerly of San Rafael. **Charles W. Wright** is responsible for the town's layout that started in 1887. The first Larkspur post office opened in 1891. Larkspur's Downtown Historic District known

also as Old Downtown Larkspur, is a historic district that was listed on the National Register of Historic Places 1982. The restored Larkspur Art Deco Lark Theater is part of this downtown district. Larkspur was incorporated in March 1908. The 2020 population is 13,064. The city manager is **Dan Schwarz**, and **Shannon O'Hare** is the Assistant City Manager among her responsibilities. **Emilia Gabriele** is the Administrative Services Director. The Larkspur City Clerk is **Alison Foulis**. The Community Development Director is **Elise Semonian** and **Julian Skinner** is the Public Works Director. **Nick Stone** is the Larkspur Recreation Director.



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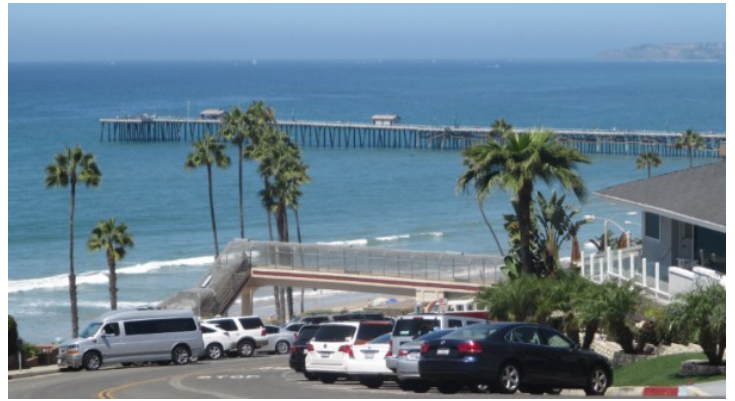
Michael Colantuono is Managing Shareholder, and currently is City Attorney for the City of Grass Valley. Michael is an elected member of the American Law Institute, and he is a leading expert in local government legal issues.

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

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That is the T-Street pedestrian bridge in the foreground and the San Clemente Pier in the background.



Daniel "Dan" R. Schwarz is the Larkspur city manager. Dan became City Manager in May 2010. Before joining Larkspur, Dan spent four years with the City of Rohnert Park in Sonoma County, first as Assistant City Manager and then as Interim City Manager. Earlier in his career, Dan spent eight (8) years working for the Orange County and Napa County Local Agency Formation Commissions. In Orange County and later in Napa County. He was involved in the incorporation of two cities, Rancho Santa Margarita and Aliso Viejo. Dan earned a BA from the University of California, Berkeley, and an MA from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). In 2016, Dan received a 10 Year ICMA Service Award.



Shannon O'Hare is the Larkspur Assistant City Manager. She joined the Larkspur city staff in 2016 as Assistant to the City Manager. Shannon earned a BA from the University of California, Santa Cruz and an MPP from Rutgers University. While at Rutgers, Shannon worked as a Fellow for the State of New Jersey Office of Legislative Services. Shannon is a veteran of the **Tripepi Smith** firm where she worked as a Business Analyst from September 2012 to January 2016 in the San Francisco Bay Area.

"It always seems impossible until it's done."

—Nelson Mandela



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Adel Freij, PE
Director of City Engineering
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"Proof of Life" Lunch, October 16, 2025



The next "Proof of Life" lunch will be at the Northwoods Inn Restaurant in [La Mirada](#) on Thursday, October 16, 2025. Please mark your calendar and plan to be there!

This "Proof of Life" lunch picture shows former city managers **Bob Dickey** and **Gregory Korduner**, one of the "Proof of Life" founders. These Dutch treat luncheons are opportunities for former colleagues to meet and greet and catch up with one another. Gather at 11:30 for the noon lunch on Thursday, October 16, 2025.



1997 picture of **Susan** and **Samantha Simpson** with the late city manager **Frank G. Tripepi**. Frank also served as a **Willdan** executive. He loved classic cars.

California Managers in Cities from Larkspur to Lemoore

Jean A. Bonander served as the [Larkspur](#) city manager from February 1994 until November 2009. Jean served in local government for nearly 30-years, 15 of those years with [Larkspur](#). Jean is a former Town Administrator for the Town of [San Anselmo](#) from October 1989 to February 1994. She also worked for the cities of [Palo Alto](#), and [Mountain View](#). She is the owner of Finesse the Future, consulting, starting in February 2010. She earned an AA from Orange Coast College, a BA from the University of San Francisco and an MA in human resources from Golden Gate University.

Retired Napa City Manager **Patricia S. Thompson** served as a [Larkspur](#) Interim City Manager in 2009-2010. Since retiring from [Napa](#) in 2006, Pat has completed Interim City Manager assignments in [Ukiah](#), [Novato](#), [Larkspur](#) and she was Interim Assistant City Manager for [Santa Rosa](#). Pat earned a BA and MPA from San Diego State University. In 2006 she received a 30 Year ICMA Service Award.

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; Retired City Manager
Glenn Southard, Retired CM, Indio & Claremont
Joe Tanner, Retired Vallejo City Manager
Guy Huffaker, Retired Porterville City Manager
Vern Lawson, Retired, City of Lancaster
Robert T. "Bob" Dickey, Retired South Gate DPW
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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, City Manager, Santa Fe, New Mexico
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
Ron Kiedrowski, Retired City Manager
Donald Duckworth, Retired City Manager
Richard Rowe, Retired City Manager

Posse Roster:

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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
Karen Herrera, Retired Deputy City Manager, Duarte



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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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Debbie Smith, Executive Director

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Jose Solache, ICFA President
 Lynwood City Council Member

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Telephone No. 877-906-0941

California Managers in Cities from Larkspur to Lemoore



Lathrop is a San Joaquin County city found south of Stockton. The community was developed around the railroad. The town was founded around 1868 when the first transcontinental railroad was extended to the area. The

new town was designed around a site that was built as a train depot named *Wilson's Station*. In 1869, the area was renamed in honor of the family of **Leland Stanford's** wife, **Jane Stanford** (née Lathrop), and her brother, **Charles Lathrop**, who worked for Leland as an engineer at Central Pacific. In 1871, a post office opened in Lathrop. Throughout the 1870s, Lathrop was an important rail stop for the transcontinental railroad. This generated steady growth in the area. Lathrop was not incorporated until July 1989. The 2020 population is 28,701. The Lathrop city manager is **Stephen J. Salvatore**, and **Thomas Hedegard** is Deputy City Manager. The City Clerk and Government Services Director is **Teresa Vargas**. **Rick Caguiat** is the Community Development Director, and **Cari James** is the Finance Director. **Todd Sebastian** is the Parks and Recreation Director, and **Michael King** is the Assistant City Manager and Director of Public Works. **Stephen Sealy** is the Lathrop Chief of Police.



Isaiah Hagerman has served as the Rancho Mirage city manager since May 2018. Prior to joining the city staff as Finance Director in 2012, he worked for a private accounting firm. He earned a BS in accounting from the University of Redlands.



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Englander Knabe & Allen (EKA) is one of the leading strategic communications and public affairs firms in Southern California. The Founding Partner is **Harvey Englander**, and Partners include **Matt Knabe, Marcus Allen, Eric Rose, Jeff McConnell, Adam Englander, Alex Cherin** and Managing Partner **Kellie Hawkins**. **EKA** prides itself on providing a unique and strategic perspective on a wide variety of issues.

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To contact **EKA**, please call 213) 741-1500 or email **Matt Knabe**, Partner.



West Hollywood's city manager is **David Wilson**, who is set to retire in early 2026. David was appointed city manager in July 2021. The Assistant and Deputy City Manager are **Jackie Rocco** and **Steve Campbell**.

[Picture by **Kellee Simpson Hearther**]

California Managers in Cities from Larkspur to Lemoore



Stephen "Steve" J. Salvatore is the Lathrop city manager. Steve worked as a contract consultant for the Stockton Interim City Manager earlier this year. He apparently did not leave Lathrop to satisfy his consulting contract with Stockton.

He is no longer working with Stockton. Steve was appointed city manager for Lathrop in September 2012 when City Manager **Cary Keaten** left to serve as the General Manager of the Solano Irrigation District in Vacaville. Steve previously served as Deputy City Manager and Interim City Manager. Steve first joined the Lathrop city staff in January 2008 as the Director of Public Works.

Cary Keaten left the Lathrop city manager position in April 2012. He came to the city as the Public Works Director in 2009. Cary left to become the General Manager of the Solano Irrigation District in Vacaville.

After working for the cities of Stockton and Fresno, **Yvonne Pimentel Quiring** served rocky tenure as the Lathrop city manager from 2007 to 2008. She was the Fillmore city manager from 2010 to 2012. Yvonne served as the assistant city manager and Administrative Services Director for the City of Davis from 2012 until 2015. She retired in 2015. Yvonne earned a BA in sociology from California State University, Fresno and an MBA from the University of Phoenix.



Kristine Guerrero, Jennifer Quan & Jeff Kiernan of the Los Angeles County Division of the League.

1400 K Street, 4th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
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California Cities in Cites from Larkspur to Lemoore



Lawndale is a Los Angeles County city in the South Bay region. In 1905, **Charles B. Hopper** first subdivided the area and named it after the Chicago neighborhood of the same name. Residential lots sold at a slow pace and different

promotions were tried, such as promoting Lawndale as a chicken raising area. After World War II, the immense demand for housing from returning veterans and California newcomers resulted in Lawndale's formation as a bedroom community. On December 28, 1959, Lawndale was incorporated as a city. The 2020 population is 31,807. The Lawndale city staff includes **Dr. Sean M. Moore** as city manager and **Raylette Felton**, is the Assistant to the City Manager/Human Resources Director. **Hrant Manuelian** is the Finance Director, the Director of Public Works/City Engineer is **Lucho Rodriguez**, the Community Development Director is **Peter Kann**, the Director of Finance and City Treasurer is **Hrant Manuelian**, and the Deputy City Manager and Director of Human Resources is **Raylette Felton**. The Director of Municipal Services is **Michael Reyes**, and the Director of Community Services is **Jason Minter**, and the Assistant City Clerk, **Yvette Palomo**.



Jonathan Royas, Santa Paula, President
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Dr. Sean M. Moore began his public service career as a Planning Division Manager for County of Imperial in April 2011. In May 2013 he became Director of Planning for the County of Tehama. In June 2016, Sean was appointed Director of Community Development for the City of Lawndale. He left that position in November 2021 to take a similar position with the City of Rialto. In February 2022, Sean moved back to Lawndale as city manager. He earned an AA from Chaffey College, a BA and MPA from California State University, Fullerton and a Doctorate in Public Administration from Walden University. Sean has completed many special certificate programs. **Raylette Felton**, is the Assistant to the City Manager/Human Resources Director.



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California Cities in Cities from Larkspur to Lemoore

Many highly professional executives have served the City of Lawndale. **Alfred Thompson** was City Administrator in 1980, and **Allen Brice Stephenson** was City Administrator in 1981 and retired in 1983 before taking a part-time position with San Marino at the age of 79.

Lloyd de Llamas previously served as City Manager for the cities of Woodlake, Lawndale and Monterey Park, and he worked in Assistant positions with the cities of Torrance and San Diego. Lloyd was the Lawndale city administrator from October 1971 to September 1976. Lloyd helped **Bob Hinderliter** found **HdL Companies** starting in 1987. Lloyd served as the Executive Chair of the company. He is a past President of the San Gabriel Valley City Manager's Association and a founding Director of the California Redevelopment Association (CRA).



In 1983, **Paul J. Philips** was appointed City Administrator for the city of Lawndale, he served in Lawndale until 1988. Paul began his public service career in April 1974 in the South El Monte Planning Department. He served as the Director of Planning from March 1976 to January 1977 when he was hired by Lowell, Oregon as City Administrator. He returned to South El Monte as City Administrator in March 1979. Paul worked as Assistant City Administrator in Hawaiian Gardens in 1982-1983, before he was appointed to the Lawndale city manager position in February 1983. In March 1990, Paul was recruited to be the Artesia City Manager and he served there for 10-years before moving to the Covina City Manager post in 2000 to 2008. Paul served as Interim City Administrator for Maywood, and he worked as city manager for the city of Industry from 2015 to 2018, and the city manager of Bell January 2020 to 2021. He also served for a time with the California Contract Cities Association. Legal action for Industry issues is pending. Paul earned a BA from Chapman University. He is among the founders of the "Proof of Life" program.

California Contract Cities Association



Brenda Olmos of Paramount, President
John Erickson of West Hollywood, Vice President
Chris Barajas of Jurupa Valley, Secretary
Sal Melendez, of Montebello, Treasurer
Jennifer Perez of Norwalk, Immediate Past Pres.

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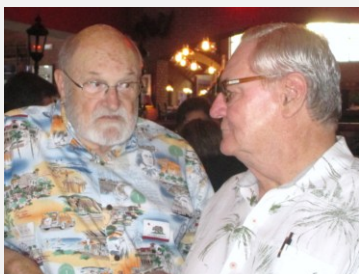
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California Managers in Cities from Larkspur to Lemoore

John E. Nowak was selected to be the Lawndale city manager in 1991 and served about a year. John started as a Senior Community Planner in Nashville, Tennessee in 1974. John came to California local government in August 1981 when he joined the Lancaster staff as an Administrative Director. He worked for San Marino prior to going to Lawndale in 1991. John completed work assignments in San Gabriel, Moorpark, Culver City, San Bernardino County, and Manteca.



Lemon Grove is on former Spanish land grant property in San Diego County that was purchased by **Robert Allison** in 1850 after he arrived in the area from Sacramento. Some of the property was subdivided in 1892 as "Lemon Grove." The Lemon Grove Fruit Growers Association was formed in 1893. The climate is suitable for cultivating subtropical fruits. An 1894 description of the area was that it appeared to be "a sea of lemon trees." By the end of World War II, most of the citrus groves disappeared and replaced housing and commercial developments. Lemon Grove was incorporated as a general law city in July 1977. Its 2024 population estimate is 27,867. **Lydia Romero** is the city manager and **Joel G. Pablo** is the City Clerk. **Izzy Murguia** is the Public Works Director, and **Stacey Tang** is the Finance Director. **Michael Fellows** is the Community Development Manager, and **Roberto Hidalgo** is the Human Resources Manager. **Bent Koch** is the Fire Chief.



The Late **William Holt** and retired Pomona City Manager **Doug Dunlap**. Bill retired as Paramount city manager and as Chief Executive Officer for the **California JPIA**.

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California Managers in Cities from Larkspur to Lemoore



Lydia Romero is the Lemon Grove city manager. Before becoming the city manager in January 2016, Lydia served as the Deputy City Manager for the City of San Marcos, and she worked as Assistant to the City Manager for the City of San Rafael. Lydia also worked as a policy analyst for the League of California Cities in Sacramento, and she began her local government career as a member of the Duarte city staff. Prior to her local government service, Lydia was a legislative intern for State Senator **Robert Presley** in Sacramento. She is a board member for the Institute of Local Government and was recently appointed to serve on the Davenport Institute's Advisory Board. Lydia also serves as the City Manager's representative on the League of California Cities' Citipac Oversight Committee. Lydia earned an AA degree from Rio Hondo Community College and a BA from California State University, Long Beach.



Izzy Murguia is the Public Works Director in Lemon Grove. He worked for the New York State Assembly starting in September 2009. After a few positions he took a Management Analyst in 2013 with the city manager's office in Murrieta. In November 2018, Izzy joined the Poway city staff in the public works department. In September 2022, he was selected to be the Director of Public Works for the City of Lemon Grove. Izzy earned a BA from the University of California, Santa Cruz, an MA from Syracuse University, and an MPA from Arizona State University. Izzy served as President of the Municipal Management Association of Southern California (MMASC) in 2019-2020.

"Obstacles are proof that you're moving forward."
---The Late **Charlie Kirk**, speaking on perseverance

California Managers in Cities from Larkspur to Lemoore



Jack D. Shelver was the first city manager for the city of Lemon Grove, starting in November 1977. He worked as city manager until his retirement in 1994. The last information available indicates that he lives in Julian, California. Prior to coming to Lemon Grove, Jack worked as city manager in Imperial Beach between 1973 and 1977. He started his public service career in March 1961 when he took an Administrative Trainee position with the city of San Diego. In February 1962, Jack was hired to be the Assistant to the City Manager in Imperial Beach. In November 1967, he joined the Del Mar city staff as city manager. After a half-dozen years, Jack returned to Imperial Beach as city manager in January 1973 and worked in that position until being hired by Lemon Grove. Jack earned an AB from San Diego State University, and an MPA from National University.



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Garland Gray;	1955 – April 1956
Lloyd M. Mitchell;	May 5, 1956 – January 10, 1968
David M. Brown;	January 24, 1968 – January 1, 1970
George Patterson;	May 5, 1970 – July 14, 1976
Kennith Lounsberry;	August 1976 - December 31, 1979
Ray Windsor;	January 2, 1980 – April 1, 1982
Vern Hazen;	August 30, 1983 – January 4, 1989
Douglas K. Clark;	July 17, 1989 – June 19, 1997
Rolf S. Gunnarson;	October 8, 1997 – July 3, 2003
Clay Phillips;	July 4, 2003 – December 30, 2015
Graham Mitchell;	December 31, 2015 – April 2017
Jeffrey R. Epp;	May 4, 2017 – June 2021
Sean McGlynn;	June 2021 - Present



Chairman **Jim L. Barisic**, former Artesia City Manager who also served the cities of Cerritos and

Paramount, is a Viet Nam veteran, founded **Brandywine** in 1994.



Jim, 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!

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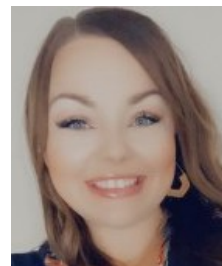
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California Managers in Cities from Larkspur to Lemoore



Lemoore is a city in Kings County and home to Naval Air Station Lemoore, a base housing F-18 and F-35 squadrons assigned to the Pacific Fleet of the United States Navy. **Dr. Lovern Lee Moore** built his home on the shores of Tulare Lake, then potentially the largest freshwater body of water in the U.S., outside of the Great Lakes. Many individual farms covered the area. It was 1872 when streets were constructed, and the subdivision began to sell. In 1875 a Lemoore post office was established named for **Lee Moore**. Lemoore city manager is **Marissa Trejo**, and the City Clerk is **Marisa Avalos**. **Kristi Ramsey** is the Human Resources Director. The Community Development Management Analyst is **Kristie Baley**, and the Finance Director is **Josalynn Valdez**.



Marissa Trejo was hired to serve as the Lemoore city manager in September 2024. Prior to accepting the Lemoore city manager assignment, Marissa worked as the Coalinga city manager starting in November 2015. She worked 16 years for Coalinga, nearly 9 years as city manager. Marissa continues to serve as an online adjunct faculty member for Southern New Hampshire University. She began that tenure in August 2014. She has also served as an online adjunct faculty member for Ashford University and Concordia University. Marissa earned two MS degrees from Chapman University.

William "Bill" R. Drennen worked in the Public Works Department of Kings County before going to work for the City of Lemoore as the Public Works Director and City Engineer in March 1969. He became city manager in October 1975. Bill served as city manager for the City of Lindsay from 1986 until his retirement in 2003. He passed away at the age of 71 in January 2014. He earned a BS from the University of the Pacific.



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The firm was recognized as one of California's Top Ranked Law Firms by Martindale-Hubbell in 2014 and **Michael Colantuono**, **Terri Highsmith**, **Jenni Pancake**, **Michael Allderdice** and **Scott Howard** have each achieved the highest AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell. **Michael Colantuono** (2011–2013) and **Holly Whatley** (2013) have been listed as among the Top Municipal Lawyers in California by the **Daily Journal** newspaper. Michael was awarded the 2010 Public Lawyer of the Year Award by the California State Bar, is a former President of the City Attorneys Department of the League of California Cities, former President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the State Bar, and Secretary / Treasurer of the California Academy of Appellate Lawyers—a prestigious organization of about 100 of the most respected appellate advocates in our State. Michael is also certified as an Appellate Specialist by the California State Bar's Board of Legal Specialization.

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Newsletters: CHW periodically distributes newsletters that highlight new developments in the law that might be of interest. [Click here](#)



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Picking Up the Pieces: Folsom Planning Manager Desmond Parrington underlines "local control" and "home rule" advocates while pointing out continued efforts by the State Legislature to establish new housing-related mandates. Senate Bill 79 would require many local communities to **approve**

additional housing developments near train and bus stations. Cities could come up with alternative ideas but must follow specific rules and the state has final approval. Poway Assistant City Manager Wendy Kaserman is the new Santee city manager. Wendy has been the Poway assistant city manager since 2106. Santee has been without a city manager since City Manager **Marlene Best** was dismissed in April and **Gary Halbert** was retained as Interim City Manager. She previously worked for the city of San Marcos, the Town of Queen Creek, Arizona and Casa Grande, Arizona. Wendy also worked for the League of Arizona Cities and Towns from September 2002 to 2005. She graduated from San Marcos High School and attended classes at Palomar Community College. Wendy earned a BS from Arizona State University and an MPA from the University of Arizona. Isleton City Manager Jon Kennedy was seeking an \$800,000 loan to help avoid a potential city bankruptcy or disincorporation. The Sacramento County Board of Supervisors rejected the request. Isleton currently owes more than \$4.7 million to several creditors. Newport Beach has hired **Seimone Jurjis** as its next city manager, effective December 27, 2025. Seimone will succeed City Manager **Grace Leung**, who retire after a 30-year career in local government, including seven years as Newport Beach city manager. He has served as Assistant City Manager since 2023, bringing more than three decades of combined public-and private-sector experience to his new job. Seimone joined the Newport Beach city staff in 2011. Retired city manager **Shannon Yauchzee** reminds us that Seimone is a registered civil engineer and began his career working with **Willdan** Engineering starting in 1993. Before joining the Newport Beach staff, he worked for the cities of West Hollywood and El Segundo. He earned a BS in civil engineering from California State University, Fullerton. Former Community Development Director in Lakewood (February 2019-Septemeber 2024) and Bell Gardens (December 2012-January 2019), **Abel Avalos** is closing out his first year and about to celebrate his first anniversary as city manager for the City of Artesia. Abel began his Artesia tenure in October 2024. He started his public service career with the City of Anaheim in 1996. He earned a BA from California State University, Long Beach, California and an MPP from the Kennedy School at Harvard University.

"I always learn things from the newsletter."
---Former City Manager **Michael Sakamoto**



City Manager **Melissa Stevenson Diaz** of Redwood City will retire in December 2025. Melissa was appointed city manager in October 2015; ten years ago. Prior to joining the Redwood City staff, Melissa was the Assistant City Manager for the city of Mountain View from September 2010 and Fremont between June 2006 and August 2010.

She worked as the Assistant to the City Manager in Morgan Hill from February 2001 to June 2006. She worked a total of 15 years for Morgan Hill. Melissa earned a BA from Mills College in Oakland and an MA in public administration from San José State University. Melissa was Student Body President as Mill College. She is an ICMA Credentialed Manager. Her regional leadership includes serving as the Chair for the San Mateo County City Manager's Association in 2020, as a Management Committee member for the San Mateo County Pre-Hospital Emergency Medical Services Joint Powers Authority, and as a member of San Mateo County's Shared Prosperity Council. Melissa is married to retired Fremont city manager **Fred Diaz**.

As of August 2025, four California city managers have the name "Jim." **James R. "Jim" Lewis** of Atascadero, **Jim Vanderpool** of Anaheim, **Jim Schaad** of Marysville, and **Jim Goodwin** of the Town of Paradise. Former city managers **Jim McCann** of Mill Valley, who retired in February 2020, **Jim James** of Twentynine Palms and former Banning city manager **Jim Smith**. In 1932 Sacramento city manager **James Dean** was the first President of the City Managers' Department of the League of California Cities. **Jim Fales** of Redwood City was the President in 1972-1973, and Atascadero's **Jim Lewis** is a past President too. Former Palmdale City Manager **Ronda Perez** formally withdrew her name from consideration for the City of Malibu city manager position after she was offered the job. Prior to her Palmdale tenure, Ronda served as the Assistant City Manager for the City of Lancaster. Ronda is an ICMA Credentialed Manager. She earned an MPA from California State University, Long Beach, California. With her withdrawal from consideration, Ambassador **Candace Bond** (Ret.) will continue serving as Interim City Manager.



Karen Ann Nobrega Herrera, retired Duarte Deputy City Manager, and El Segundo city manager **Darrell George** visiting the 1620 Plymouth Rock in Plymouth, Massachusetts.



More Pieces Picked Up: Placerville has a new city manager. **David R. Warren**, the city's assistant city manager and Finance Director, will replace city manager **Cleve Morris**, who will retire effective October 3. David joined the city staff in 1994 as an accounting assistant. He



left Placerville in 1998 to be the Chief Fiscal Officer for the Gold Trail Union School District. David returned to the city in 2002 as Assistant Finance Director. He was elevated to Finance Director in 2004 and served in that position until 2018 when he became Assistant City Manager too. David earned a BS in accountancy from California State University, Sacramento. It was reported in the Los Angeles Times by writers **David Zahniser** and **Noah Goldberg** that nearly 300 Los Angeles city employees were saved from being laid off following two major unions singing off on proposed cost-cutting measures. The proposed layoffs would have affected 222 civilian LAPD employees and 63 jobs in planning and civilian investigators. City Administrative Officer **Matt Szabo** said that the agreements reduced the number of layoffs to 75.



SHORTS: *Former Ukiah city manager **Candace Horsley** is a member of the seven-member commission for the Mendocino Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo). ***Douglas**

K. Clark was the Larkspur city manager in 1990, and **Douglas K. Clark** served as Larkspur city manager from 1986 -1989, before he became the Escondido city manager in June 1989. *Former Los Banos and Ceres city manager, **Alex C. Terrazas** has worked as a Client Experience Advocate for **Hdl Companies** in Brea since April 2024. ***Anne M. Haraksin**, Deputy City Manager for the city of La Mirada, joined the La Mirada city staff in May 2015 after working for the city of Diamond Bar. *ICMA Credentialed Manager, Retired, **Gary D. Milliman** served as the Talent, Oregon city manager from January 2024 until March 2025. *Artesia Deputy City Manager **Melissa Burke** earned a BA from the University of California, Los Angeles (**UCLA**) and an MPA from California State University, Long Beach. *Simi Valley, where **Samantha C. Argabrite** is the city manager, is adopting a residential preferential parking permit program. *A former State prison has officially reopened in California City as an ICE detention center. *Half Moon Bay city manager **Matthew Chidester** serves of the Advisory Board for the Local Governance Summer Institute at Stanford University. ***Teri Black**, owner of Teri Black & Company, earned an MPA from the University of Southern California (**USC**). ***Dan Rich**, former Mountain View city manager (July 2011 to December

Some considerations and thoughts, just for edification and "remember whens":

Researchers at the University of Michigan and at the University of California, Santa Barbara, found in a recent research study that California has more cattle feeding operations than any other state. California also has the most feedlot acreage. Tulare County has more than any county in the country. **Marc Mondell** is the city manager for the City of Tulare. Who remembers 2012 Summer Olympics gymnastics star **McKayla Maroney**?

She has been actively involved in advocacy work, using her platform to raise awareness about issues within the athletic community and supporting mental health. The picture here is **Will Ha** of **RAW Performance** in Los Alamitos. In 2020, according to writer **Matt K. Lewis**, it was COVID that swung the Presidential election. It was that global pandemic. An act of God, or Wuhan, or Fauci. The next much bigger disruption will be artificial intelligence (AI). There seems to be a bipartisan lack of preparation for the future election impacts of artificial intelligence. Giant drugstore chain Rite Aid, which opened its first store in 1962, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. It began closing all of its remaining 1,240 locations in May 2025. Drugstore chain CVS launched a downsizing, and Walgreens is evaluated the potential closure of 1,200 locations over the next three years. Pacific View Memorial Park is a cemetery located in the Corona del Mar neighborhood of Newport Beach, in Orange County. It first opened in 1958 and is the final resting place of actor **John Wayne** and basketball legend **Kobe Bryant**.



2019) and Campbell city manager (May 2005 to July 2011), earned an MPP from the Kennedy School at Harvard University. ***Pamela Wu** served as the city manager for the City of Cupertino from August 2022 to August 2025. *Last information indicates that retired Fremont city manager **Fred Diaz**, who previously served as city manager for the cities of Tracy and Indio, lives in San Jose and enjoys being a spectator at his daughter Alana's soccer games. ***Christopher Lopez** is the city manager for the city of California City. ***Kevin Duggan**, former Mountain View and Campbell city manager and past President of the City Managers' Department of the League of California Cities (2008-2009), is an ICMA/LCC Senior Advisor. *Former El Monte Public Works and Utilities Director and Assistant City Manager and Lynwood Director of Public Works, **Salvador Mendez**, is the Assistant City Manager for the City of Palmdale. ***Timothy Leroy Lincecum**, nicknamed "The Freak", who won two Cy Young Awards while pitching for the San Francisco Giants, turned 41 on his June 15 birthday. *California State Treasurer **Fiona Ma**, who is a CPA, is the recipient of an Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters from Rochester Institute of Technology.***