

"Providing thread to help stitch together the fabric of the city management community."

www.trackdownmanagement.net

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City Managers Who Know: Water Runs Down Hill!

Our first City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown issue in 2008 focused on City Managers with a Parks and Recreation background...folks like **Pat West** of Long Beach, **Jeff Kolin** of Santa Rosa and **Nelson Oliva** of Hercules. That issue developed a number of requests from the other public services disciplines for similar treatment.

Last month (March 2008) the League of California Cities Public Works Officers Institute & Mini Expo was held at the Hilton Torrey Pines, La Jolla where the city managers met the previous month. We are certain that the engineers and municipal public works experts gathered in the award-winning Torreyana Grille to swap war stories, and maybe they even mentioned their city manager bosses who met there in February.

So here is a Trackdown attempt to identify some of the California City Managers who have engineering/public works backgrounds. Again, we are not claiming that this is an exhaustive list. It is our attempt to present a good representative list. We present California City Managers who probably know best that water runs down hill, and we are most proud to introduce our two newest Sponsors, **De La Rosa & Co.**, and **Colantuono & Levin, PC**.



Tyler Pouncéy on the beach at Long Beach in a San Diego T-shirt in February, 2008.

CMs with Public Works Roots, "Footings," Base Material, or Foundations



Patricia E. Martel, City Manager in Daly City, has a BS and an MPA from **USC**, and a 25-year ICMA Service Award. Pat began her career in late 1980 as an Administrative Assistant with the Inglewood's

Engineering staff. In 1982 she became a Senior Administrative Analyst with Inglewood and was promoted to Assistant to the City Manager in 1985. After being named Executive Assistant to the City Manager in 1988, Pat left Inglewood for the Assistant City Manager position in South San Francisco, January 1991. During her tenure as the South San Francisco Assistant City Manager she twice served as the Interim City Manager while the City Council recruited for the top spot. In late 1995 Pat was appointed Assistant City Manager in Daly City where she served until September 2001 when she was appointed General Manager for the City and County of San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC). Pat served in this "big" job until May 2004, and then worked with Hayward in partnership with the Hayward Unified School District and Hayward Area Recreation and Park District to manage public facilities and infrastructure improvements. Her return to Daly City as City Manager in April 2005 was seen as a "homecoming" for the City's first-ever female city manager. Pat succeeds City Manager **John C. Martin**, who retired following a distinguished public service career of more than thirty years with almost 25 of those years in Daly City.

http://www.dalycity.org/city_news/news/pr137.htm

Every California City Manager should be a member of the

[California City Management Foundation](http://www.cacitymanagers.org)



www.cacitymanagers.org

Citrus Heights City Manager **Henry M. Tingle** has a 25-year ICMA Service Award. Henry earned a BA at Sonoma State University and an MPA from the University of San Francisco. He began his public service career as a Plant Operator for the East Bay Municipal Utility District in April 1977. In October 1982 Henry became a Waste Water Supervisor in Richmond, and in 1988 Henry went to an Associate Manager position in San Francisco. In 1990 Henry was appointed Assistant Director of Public Works in Richmond. In January 1995 he became the Deputy City Manager. In 1998 Henry was appointed General Services Director in Citrus Height, and he took on the additional responsibilities of City Manager in October 1999.



<http://www.citrusheights.net/home/index.asp?page=948>



<http://www.kosmont.com/>

"If you don't know where you are going, any road will get you there."

--Lewis Carroll

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<http://www.urbanfuturesinc.com/>

Sandy Groves

Potter and Photographer Sandy Groves www.sandygroves.com

City Managers with PW Roots

Holtville City Manager **Laura G. Fischer** earned a BS from National University and an MBA from San Diego State University. Laura started her public service career in 1990 as a Supervisor in the El Centro Elementary School District. Laura's first city position was as a Public Works Analyst in El Centro in November 1998. In 2004 Laura became a Utility Rate Analyst for the Imperial Irrigation District. Laura distinguished herself by earning a position and professional reputation, and in December 2005 she was appointed City Manager of Holtville, a city of approximately 6,000 about 120 miles east of San Diego...the birth place of former Assembly Member Joe A. Gonsalves. Holtville is about 16 feet below sea level and has an average summer time temperature of 105 degrees, and calls itself the "Carrot Capital of the World." The 61st Annual Carrot Festival events were held between February 1 and 10th this year. The Annual Blue Angels Golf Tournament was held February 16 at the Barbara Worth Resort in Holtville. The City of Holtville was founded by W. F. Holt and incorporated in 1908.

Colantuono
& Levin, PC

www.CLLAW.US

Solvang City Manager **Bradley S. Vidro** got his public service career started as an Associate Transportation Engineer for the State of California in January 1983. In January 1997 he was appointed Public Works Director in Placerville. He also served as City Engineer in South Lake Tahoe and in 1999 he was appointed Public Works Director there. Brad went to the relatively young City of Solvang as Public Works Director in June 2005. Solvang incorporated in May 1985, though the community's founding reaches back to 1911 and a small group of Danish teachers. Brad was appointed City Manager there in October 2006. Brad has a BS degree from Michigan State University.

After earning a BS at California Poly University, Pomona **Dennis R. Wilberg** began his public service career with 10-years on the Irvine Transportation staff. In September 1989 Dennis was appointed as the Director of Public Works in Mission Viejo. Dennis became the Assistant City Manager/Director of Public Works in 1994 and was elevated to the Mission Viejo City Manager in 2003, first as the Interim City Manager with the November 7 departure of former City Manager **Dan Joseph**. Recognizing a regional responsibility, last year Mission Viejo agreed to provide staff support to the Orange County Council of Governments (OCCOG). This means that City Manager Dennis Wilberg became the Interim Executive Director of the OCCOG in his spare time.



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www.us.bureauveritas.com

CMs with Public Works Roots

Peter A. Weiss earned a BS degree in Civil Engineering Technology from the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, PA. He first came to Oceanside as an Assistant Civil Engineer in 1986. He served as the Deputy City Engineer from 1992 to 1995. Peter served as the City Engineer from 1995 to 2000, and was named Public Works Director in April 2000. The Oceanside City Council appointed Peter Interim City Manager in January, and in August, 2007 he became the City Manager. Peter is a former Ironman Triathlete and continues to be active in Scouting and youth sports. It has been reported that Peter has had talks with the San Diego Chargers about possibly moving the National Football League franchise to Oceanside.

Hesperia City Manager **Michael P. Podegracz** graduated from Loyola Marymount University with a BS. In 1983 Mike went to work for SO & Associates as a Principal Engineer. He was promoted to Vice President with the company in November 1990. In 2001 Mike started as the Director of Development Services/City Engineer in Hesperia. The City Council appointed him City Manager in August 2005. Mike followed **Robb Quincey** into the City Manager position when Robb moved on to Upland.



<http://www.cityofhesperia.us/article.cfm?id=120>



www.muni.com

Palmdale City Manager **Stephen H. Williams** lists his public service start as the Director of

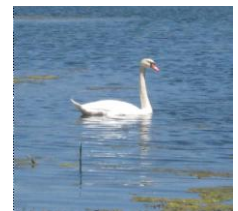


Public Works in Cochise County, Arizona in June 1984. In 1986 Steve went to Pima County, Arizona as the Deputy Director of Transportation, and he moved to the Palmdale staff in 1987 as the Director of Public Works. Steve

moved up to Assistant City Manager for Community Development in 2003 and with the retirement of City Manager **Bob Toone**, Steve was appointed City Manager in October 2006. Steve has a BS in Civil Engineering from the University of Arizona and an MPA from California State University, Northridge. Steve also attended an executive leadership program at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University in July 2006. He is a past president of the High Desert Branch of the American Public Works Association (APWA) and was named the 2001 Public Sector Leader of the Year for the Southern California Chapter of APWA.

http://www.cityofpalmdale.org/city_hall/city_council.html#williams

Swan visiting Clear Lake near Lakeport, California



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<http://www.ejdelarosa.com/>

CMs with PW Foundations

San Jacinto City Manager **Barry D. McClellan** earned a BS at the University of San Francisco and an MPA from California State University. Barry has a 30-year ICMA Service Award. He began his public service career in 1969 as an Associate Engineer in Riverside, where he worked until 1978. In October 1980 Barry was appointed Director of Public Works in Palm Desert. In 1986 he became the first Public Works Director in Moreno Valley. He took the department from two temporary employees to a full-service department of 120 staff positions. During this time of growth, Moreno Valley experienced a housing and construction boom in the late 1980s when more than 3,000 homes were built per year, and one year the number topped 4,000. In 1995 Barry left Moreno Valley to take the Irvine Public Works Director position. However, Barry returned to Moreno Valley a little more than a year later in 1995 to assume the Assistant City Manager position. Barry announced his retirement from Moreno Valley effective January 2005, but in August 2005 he was appointed Interim City Manager in San Jacinto and got the permanent position in October. When he left Moreno Valley he planned to play more golf, and he was taking flying lessons to earn a pilot's certification.



Sharon Olivito of CCCA and MuniFinancial's President & CEO, retired City Manager Frank G. Tripepi

Chino's City Manager **Patrick J. Glover** began his city career as a Building Official in the City of West Covina in 1988. In 1994 he became the West Covina Maintenance Director and then in December 1998 he was appointed Public Works Director. Pat left West Covina in 1998 to accept the Public Works Director/City Engineer position in Chino. He was appointed Chino City Manager in August 2007 to follow **Glen Rojas**, who had served ten years as the Chino City Manager before he left for Menlo Park. Pat has a BS degree from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. He is the immediate Past President of the Rancho del Chino Rotary Club.



<http://www.cityofchino.org/depts/admin/default.asp>



<http://caltrust.org/>

Retired City Manager Gaylord F. Knapp

Passed away March 8, 2008 following a long courageous battle with Huntington's Disease at the very young age of 65.

Gaylord served the County of San Diego and the Cities of La Mesa, Cerritos and Lake Forest. He was Lake Forest's first city manager & he was Cerritos City Manager for 18-years.

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City Managers with PW Roots

Fresno Assistant City Manager **Jon Ruiz**, who recently became the Eugene, Oregon City Manager, has a BC from Colorado State University and an MBA from the University of Colorado. He also completed the Harvard University's JFK School of Government Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government. He started his public service career in 1988 as a Management Assistant in Fort Collins, Colorado. In 1989 he became the Fort Collins Streets Supervisor and in 1994 Jon was appointed Project & Policy Manager. In March 1995 Jon became the Director of Public Works in Ogden, Utah where he served for nearly eight years. While with Ogden, Jon participated in the Utah Statewide 2002 Winter Olympic public transportation planning and public works committees. He was appointed Public Works Director in Fresno in 2003, and in 2005 he was named Assistant City Manager/Public Works Director. Jon served more than 20-years in the U.S. Army, the National Guard and the U.S. Army Reserve reaching the rank of Colonel. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army War College, the highest professional education available for military officers. Jon is a member of ICMA and has earned a 10-year ICMA Service Award.



<http://www.bobmurrayassoc.com/>

Women Leading Government (WLG) An Initiative of the Cal-ICMA Coaching Program

Organized by women public managers, WLG is designed to assist female managers in their career development. Please check out the WLG website:

<http://www.womenleadinggovernment.org/>

Recently retired Pasadena City Manager



Cynthia J. Kurtz got her public service career start in 1976 with the Columbia Region Association of Governments (CRAG) in the Portland area. In 1977 Cynthia took a City Planner II position in Portland, and in

1981 she became a Street Lighting Manager there. In 1985 Cynthia became the Administrator of Transportation Planning & Finance in Portland, Oregon. In September 1987 Cynthia was appointed Capital Projects Administrator in Pasadena. She was appointed Acting Director of Public Works in 1990 and Pasadena's Director of Public Works in March 1991. Cynthia assumed the Assistant City Manager/Director of Public Works dual position in 1996 and became Acting City Manager in March 1998. Cynthia became the Pasadena City Manager in September of that year. She has a BS in community development and housing from Pennsylvania State University and an MA in transportation and urban planning from the University of Iowa. A Past President of the League of California Cities City Managers' Department, Cynthia has earned a 25-year ICMA Service Award.



<http://www.parsinfo.org/>

CMs with PW Foundations

Lodi City Manager **Blair F. King** has a 20-year ICMA Service Award. He has a BA and an



MPA from Fresno State University. Blair is a native of South Korea who was living in an orphanage when he was adopted at the age of 3 by a California couple. He

grew up in rural Madera County. Blair began his public service career in 1980 as an Area Development Officer for the Inter Tribal Council, California. In November 1983 Blair became a Redevelopment Specialist in Eureka. In July 1985 he was appointed Assistant Public Works Director in Eureka. In July 1988 Blair became the Assistant City Manager in Coolinga where he served for nearly three years before being selected to be the City Manager in Soledad in May 1991. In March 1994 Blair left Soledad to accept the City Manager position in Imperial Beach, where he served until the end of 1996. In January 1997 Blair moved to the City Manager position in Half Moon Bay. He became the Assistant City Manager in Milpitas in 2001, and he was appointed Lodi City Manager in January 2005.

http://www.lodi.gov/city_manager/oldnewindex.html

“Just remember, the toes you step on today may be connected to the ass you're kissing tomorrow.”

- Former Providence Mayor Buddy Cianci



www.willdan.com

Steven R. Jepsen, City Manager in Yuba City, has BS, MS and MCRP degrees from the University of Nebraska. Steve has a 25-year ICMA Service Award. He began his public service career in Lincoln, Nebraska as an Engineer Technician in 1975. After assignment with the University of Nebraska and the State of Nebraska, Steve became a City Traffic Engineer in Dubuque, Iowa in 1979. In 1982 Steve joined the Boulder, Colorado staff as the City Traffic Engineer. In June 1984 he was appointed Director of Transportation in Boulder that concluded in 1985. Following three years in private business, Steve became the Director of Transportation in Concord in 1988. In 1990 he became the Concord Assistant City Manager. He served as Acting City Manager during that assignment. In 1994 Steve became the Director of Communication/Public Works in Oceanside. In 1999 took the Deputy City Manager job, and was elevated to City Manager in May 2000. A native of agricultural country in Nebraska, he jumped at the chance to work in Yuba City.

Trackdown Posse

We are pleased to acknowledge the Trackdown Management Services Posse, a group of individuals who support our City Manager Newsletter. Thank you to each of you for the support:

Gregory Korduner, Huntington Park

Howard Chambers, Lakewood

Mike Egan, Bellflower

Ernie Garcia, Norwalk

Joe Tanner, Vallejo

Bob Gutierrez, Moreno Valley

Dave Carmany, Seal Beach

Maria Dadian, Artesia

Linda Lowry, Pomona

Ken Bayless, Greater L.A. Vector Control District

Jeff Stewart, El Segundo

Kevin O'Rourke, Fairfield (Retired)

Tom Odom, Lomita

George Rodericks, Belvedere

June Catalano, Pleasant Hill

Nelson Oliva, Hercules

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Vern Lawson, Lancaster

Fred Diaz, Fremont

Fran Delach, Azusa

Please let us know if you would like to join this distinguished group and we will send you an official Statement for processing.



<http://www.hdlcompanies.com/>

City Managers with PW Roots

Carmel-By-The-Sea City Administrator **Richard I.**



"Rich" Guillen has earned a 25-year ICMA Service Award. Rich has an AA degree in Engineering from San Bernardino Community College, a BS in Civil Engineering from Cal Poly University, Pomona and an MPA from Golden Gate

University. Rich is a Registered Professional Civil Engineer in the State of California. He began his career when he went to work for Royal Industries Engineering, a subsidiary of Bell Racing Helmets. He then went for the former American Bridge Division of United States Steel Corporation before starting his public service career in 1978 as an Associate Civil Engineer in Placer County. While with Placer County Rich served as interim district engineer for the County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. In 1987 Rich went to Auburn as the Director of their Public Works Department, and in 1993 he went to Seaside as the Public Works Director/Community Development Director. Before leaving Seaside in late 1998, Rich served a time as Acting City Manager. He moved to Carmel-By-The-Sea as City Administrator in October 2000. <http://www.ci.carmel.ca.us/>

<http://www.wolfhousing.com/>

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MMANC Recognized Local Professionals

At a January awards luncheon hosted by 2008 President **Matt Bronson**, the Municipal Management Association of Northern California (MMANC) honored several City Managers and Assistants for their career achievements and support for MMANC and the profession.

MMANC's most prestigious *West McClure Outstanding Assistant Award* was presented to three Assistant City Managers: **Nancy Huston** of Fairfield, **Joni Pattillo** of Dublin, and **Karen Pinkos** of El Cerrito.

An MMANC "Booster Award" went to Livermore City Manager **Linda Barton**, while Palo Alto City Manager **Frank Benest** received the group's "Longstanding and Continued Support Award." Five current or retired City Managers were named "Honorary Members" of MMANC: **Steve Holsinger** of Willows; **Don Blubaugh** of Martinez; **Mike Garvey**, retired from San Carlos; **Jeff Kolin** of Santa Rosa; and **Kevin O'Rourke**, retired from Fairfield. Congratulations to all!

Historically city managers came primarily from the public works/city engineering ranks. They were the professionals with the design, project budgeting, construction, field and building inspection expertise. Today we are finding that, while many highly professional city managers come from the public works ranks, city managers in general are coming from nearly every public service discipline. We have tried to present a good representative group in this newsletter, and we will take a look at other disciplines during the remainder of the year.

Please let us know of any errors or omissions that we may have made. And, we are always open to suggestions for future issues. ***



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Founded in 1931, Stone & Youngberg has a long history of providing innovative, thoughtful and cost effective investment banking services to local governments. Crafting solutions to a wide variety of capital financing needs the company's investment banking team is well versed in most aspects of local government debt markets. Based in California but with a national span, "Stone's" team is a leader in schools, general government, redevelopment, land secured, water and sewer enterprises, and transportation.

Underwriting Experience

Stone & Youngberg trades and underwrites more California municipal bonds, land-secured debt, and redevelopment financing than any other firm in the United States. In 2006, the firm underwrote over \$4.3 billion of securities representing 202 separate issues in 10 states, as sole, lead, or co-managing underwriter.

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For more than 75 years, Stone & Youngberg has focused on the business of municipal finance. In these times of global consolidation, the firm remains an independently owned and operated institution -- an increasingly rare business model in financial services. As other firms have come and gone in the public finance market, Stone & Youngberg has remained focused on the growing needs of America's cities, counties, school districts and states and has expanded its investment banking capabilities outside California to include offices in New York, Phoenix, Richmond, VA and Annapolis, MD. "Stone's" strong history and heritage will continue to help local leaders shape the economic future of the West and other states.



Steve Heaney is a Managing Director and Head of Public Finance for Stone & Youngberg.

With more than 30 years of municipal finance experience, he has directed billions of dollars in public offerings for a wide variety of capital improvement projects throughout California. In addition to his work in California, Mr. Heaney spearheaded "Stone's" efforts in Nevada where the firm completed the state's first developer-initiated financing district in 1989, and is now the state's leader in land secured and development financing.

During the past 19 years, Steve has become a leader in creating public financing techniques to address the infrastructure needs of both large and small development and redevelopment projects, and is a frequent speaker on infrastructure and finance issues.

Steve is credited with assisting the growth of "Stone's" Public Finance Group as it has expanded its footprint outside of the West Coast to New York, Virginia and Maryland.

Steve is a member of Stone & Youngberg's Executive Committee. He is a former Chairman of the California Public Securities Association, a member of the Policy Advisory Board of the Fisher Center for Real Estate and Urban Economics and a member of the Board of Trustees for the **California City Management Foundation**.

"Don't gamble. Take all your savings and buy some good stock and hold it 'til it goes up, then sell it. If it don't go up, don't buy it."

- Will Rogers

Picking Up the Pieces: Former Lodi City Manager **Dixon Flynn** is the Interim City Administrator in Plymouth, which incorporated in 1917 and currently has a population of 1,080. Elk Grove Interim City Manager/Assistant City Manager **James D. Estep**, 50, is Lincoln's new City Manager replacing the retiring **Jerry Johnson**. He previously worked in Folsom and San Ramon. Former Reedley City Manager Dr. **Brian Nakamura** is the new City Manager in Banning. Brian, 43, replaces **Randy Anstine** who recently retired. **Karin J. Morgan**, Brawley Director of Parks and Recreation since 1986, with a total of 29-years of service to the City, is serving as the Interim City Manager. Seal Beach Assistant City Manager **June Yotsuya** is the new Monterey Park City Manager. Camarillo City Manager **Jerry Bankston** is optimistic about a fire station/restaurant conversion. Willits City Manager **Ross Walker** has announced his resignation effective in June, 2008. After a little more than a year on the job, **John Davidson** has left the Hemet City Manager post. Veteran City Manager **Len Wood** is Hemet's Interim City Manager. In a 2004 Daily Californian article, Albany City Manager **Beth Pollard** estimated that UC students made up about 22.5 percent of Albany's population, while the University paid nothing in taxes to support local government services. City officials of Dorris, California are proud of having the "Tallest Flagpole" west of the Mississippi River. Started in 1993 as an idea brought by the Dorris Lions Club, the 200-foot flagpole was dedicated to all U.S. War Veterans in June, 1996. Vallejo and its City Manager **Joe Tanner** are hardly alone in struggles with spiraling public safety costs. Most cities in California spend about half their general fund on public safety, said **James Keene** of the ICMA. "It's not just Vallejo, California has some of the highest public safety costs in the nation," according to Keene, a former Berkeley City Manager. Tracy's new City Manager **R. Leon Churchill, Jr.** spent the past 4-years as the managing director of Reading, Pennsylvania. His first day at his new job is May 5. **John Brown**, Petaluma's new city manager, started the job April 1. He has been the city administrator in Woodburn, Oregon, for the past 10 years. Brown, 49, was hired after a seven-month recruiting effort to fill the post following **Mike Bierman's** retirement. **David Ott** was the Solana Beach Deputy City Manager and Public Safety Director, at the same time he served as Fire Chief for Del Mar. He became Solana Beach City Manager in August 2006. Deputy City Manager **Cody Tubbs** is the new Elk Grove Interim City Manager. Yorba Linda City Manager **Tamara S. Letourneau** was removed from her post and Assistant City Manager **David Gruchow** installed as an Interim replacement.

Former City Manager **Larry Kosmont** of Kosmont Companies, and **Brad McKinney**, an Executive with eCivis, both have hard-working wives who just recently gave birth to beautiful healthy babies.



Gavin Joshua Kosmont arrived at 6:35 a.m. on Wednesday, February 13, 2008. At birth he was 8 pounds, 2 ounces, and 21 inches long. Mother Loren is doing well, and the beaming first time father Larry is completely in blissful wonder regarding the whole event.



Kody Mayree McKinney arrived at 6:26 a.m. on Valentine's Day (February 14, 2008), and weighed in at an athletic yet feminine 7 pounds and 20 inches long. Mother Janay, a long time soccer player and coach, is doing well. Proud father Brad is beside himself with his pretty little daughter.