

City Manager Newsletter By TRACKDOWN MANAGEMENT

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

May, 2020

Page | 1

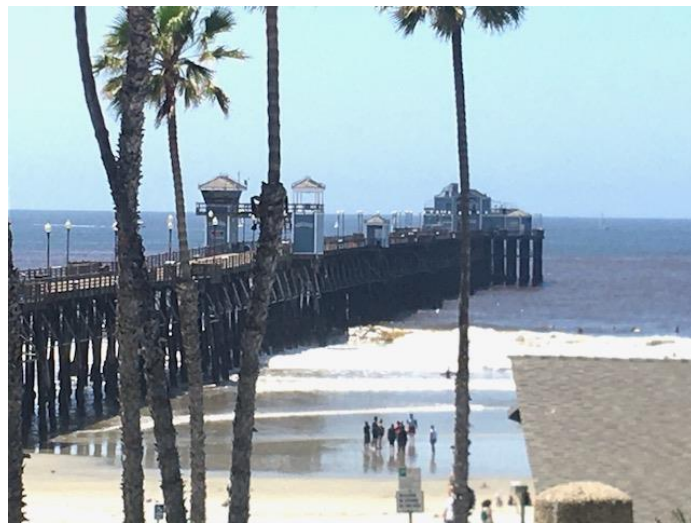
Volume No. 13: Issue No. 08

Women in California Cities From San Pablo to Santa Ana

Trackdown continues to feature a list of women city government professionals in California cities. This is our 35th segment of the Trackdown list, and includes those found working in cities alphabetically from the City of San Pablo to the City of Santa Ana.

There are many highly educated, qualified and dedicated professional women serving California cities. The list is impressive. Our effort addresses the rhetorical question: *Where are the women in city management?* It is impossible to report career profiles when individuals stay nearly anonymous on-line.

Of course, we miss deserving folks from time-to-time. Again, we apologize to anyone we miss. It is not always completely our fault. Please believe that we try our best to include all worthy individuals.



Oceanside Pier on May 3, 2020; notice that the pier has no visitors as it was closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing directives. A small group was gathered on the beach. People can spread the virus even if they never have symptoms. The Director of the California Department of Public Health suggests that it is a good idea to stay home except for obtaining essential needs. As businesses open, stay at least 6-feet away from others and please wear a cloth mask.
(Picture is by Susan Simpson)

Jack & Susan Simpson, 16707 Gerritt Avenue, Cerritos, California 90703-1442

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

www.trackdownmanagement.net | jack@trackdownmanagement.net

Trackdown Posse Roster

Executive Level Posse Roster:

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Larry F. Pennell, Retired City Manager, Wasco
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Joe Tanner, Retired Vallejo City Manager
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Ernesto Marquez, Former City Manager
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Trackdown Management is committed to help develop and maintain relationships among those who serve on local government staffs...*those who serve in the trenches!* Our mission extends to provide a means for colleagues to keep connected, while at the same time preserving bits of local government history.

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Penned by Trackdown Management
Jack A. and Susan Simpson
16707 Gerritt Avenue

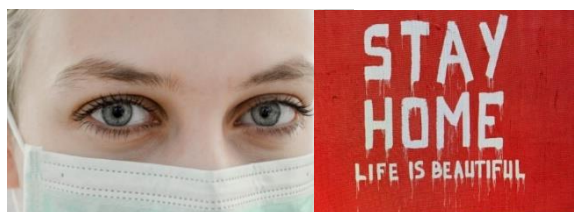
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Cell Phone No. 562-896-5424

Women in California Cities From San Pablo to Santa Ana

San Pablo is in Contra Costa County. It was incorporated in April, 1948, and has a 2018 estimated population of 31,124. The first San Pablo post office was established in 1854. **Matt Rodriguez** is the City Manager and **Patricia Ponce** is the elected City Clerk.



Reina J. Schwartz, ICMA-CM, MPP, is the City of San Pablo Assistant City Manager. She began her public service career in 1988 as a Fiscal and Policy Analyst for the California Legislative Analyst's Office. She joined the City of Sacramento city staff in 1991 as a Senior Management Analyst. In 1993 she was promoted to Solid Waste Manager (1993-1999); Strategic Planning Director (2000-2002), Budget Manager (2002-2004), and in August, 2004 she became the Director of General Services. Reina left the Sacramento city staff in April, 2015 as the Director of the Department of General Services, and began her tenure as the San Pablo Assistant City Manager in May, 2015. Reina earned a BS in natural resources and conservation from the University of California, Berkeley, and a Master's in public policy and public finance from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. In 2016, Reina received a 25-year ICMA Service Award. She is an ICMA Credentialed Manager.



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Women in California Cities From San Pablo to Santa Ana



Jill Mercurio is the City of San Pablo Director of Public Works/Engineering Department. Jill began her professional engineering career with a private engineering firm in August, 1980. After working with two firms, she was hired by the City of Concord as a Senior Civil Engineer in July, 1999. Jill was selected by the Town of Moraga to serve as its Public Works Director and Town Engineer in August, 2005. In February, 2012 she took the Assistant Public Works Director and City Engineer post in the City of Vallejo. Jill was appointed to her current position with the City of San Pablo in March, 2018. She earned a BS in civil engineering from Bucknell University and an MS in environmental engineering from Pennsylvania State University.

Viviana Toledo is the San Pablo elected City Treasurer. Viviana has more than 22-years of experience in the fields of accounting, payroll and administrative services. She is a Notary Public and she is bilingual in English and Spanish.

Sandra Marquez is the Assistant Planner for the City of San Pablo. She joined the staff in September, 2016 as an Administrative Clerk, and was promoted to Assistant Planner in July, 2017. Sandra earned a BA in sociology from San Francisco State University, and an MPA from the College of Business Administration & Public Policy at California State University, Dominguez Hills.



Among other identified in San Pablo are: **Alicia Southern**, the City's Human Resources Manager; and **Cynthia A. Sousa**, the Police Services Assistant.

Women in California Cities From San Pablo to Santa Ana

Marin County's county seat is the City of San Rafael, incorporated in February, 1874. Mission San Rafael Arcángel was founded in what is now downtown San Rafael. The mission was abandoned in 1844. The current mission was built in 1949. The San Francisco and North Pacific Railroads reached San Rafael in 1879, and linked to the national rail network in 1888. The 2018 estimated population of San Rafael in 58,704. **James M. Schutz** is the City Manager and **Lindsay Lara** is the City Clerk.



Cristine (Reid) Alilovich has served as the City of San Rafael Assistant City Manager since being appointed in September, 2015. Cristine began her career in 2000 as a consultant for a private sector company. In 2002 she took an Employee Benefits Manager position with the County of Sonoma, and worked there for 7-years. In September, 2009 she became an IT Special Projects Manager for Sonoma County. Cristine moved to the County of Marin in January, 2011 to serve as the Assistant Director of Finance. She worked there until joining the San Rafael city staff as Assistant City Manager. Cristine earned a BA from Rutgers University and an MPA from the University of Southern California (**USC**).



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Contact **Ryder Smith** or one of his colleagues at
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info@triepismith.com



Another Mark Ochendusko picture: retired City Manager **Mark Ochendusko** has demonstrated his ability to provide excellent photographs. This was taken at Windansea Beach in La Jolla in San Diego County. The "Red Tide" creates a bioluminescence. Mark says that the current "bloom" "...might be the largest, most intense I have seen."



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Joe A. Gonsalves & Son has more than 50-years of legislative experience representing cities and other clients before the Legislature and State Departments.



Jack Simpson between **Julie** and **Don Knabe**. Don is a retired member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

Women in California Cities From San Pablo to Santa Ana



Diana Bishop was appointed San Rafael Chief of Police on January 9, 2012. She became the first woman to serve as Chief in the history of the San Rafael Police Department, which was created in 1915. She is the 16th Chief of Police and the first woman. She replaced Chief **Matt Odetto**, who resigned in July, 2011. Diana worked for the City of Santa Clara Police Department for 26-years, joining it in 1985 as a Patrol Officer. She was promoted to Sergeant, then Lieutenant and she became a Captain in 2006. She earned a BA from the University of San Francisco, and an MPA from Golden Gate University. She also completed the Senior Executives in State and Local Government Program at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. She also is a graduate of the FBI National Academy Class 219.

Former San Rafael City Manager **Nancy Mackle** retired in 2015 after a 25-year public administration career. She was elevated from her Deputy City Manager position to City Manager in 2011, after work with the City for 14-years. She had previously worked in the Cities of Pinole, Emeryville and Fremont. Nancy is a University of California, Berkeley alumnus.



Other San Rafael officials identified include: **Danielle O'Leary**, Director of Economic Development & Innovation; **Susan Andrade-Wax**, Director of Library & Recreation; and **Alicia Giudice**, Senior Planner.

Also, current or former officials: **Kellee Hopper**, **Charlene McCart**, and **Cindy Mosser**.

Women in California Cities From San Pablo to Santa Ana

San Ramon is a city in Contra Costa County. It incorporated in July, 1983. San Ramon has a 2018 population estimate of 75,839. **Joe Gorton** is the City Manager and **Steven Spedowski** is the Deputy City Manager. **Simone Finney** is the Communications Analyst, and **Christina Franco** is the City Clerk.

Kathi Heimann is the San Ramon Director of Parks & Community Services. Kathi served as a Program Manager in San Leandro from 1996 to 2000. She served as a *Leadership San Ramon Valley Board Member* from 2009 to 2014. Kathi joined the City of San Ramon staff as a Division Manager in February, 2006. She was appointed to the "Interim" department head post in February, 2018. Kathi earned a BA in theater from California State University, Fullerton.

Others discovered with a look at the city staff include:

Debbie Chamberlain is the Community Development Director.

Maria Fierner, P.E., is the Public Works Director.

Eva Phelps is the Administrative Services Director in the City of San Ramon. Eva has worked for the city since August, 1986; nearly 34-years.

Candace Daniels is the Finance Division Manager in the City of San Ramon.

"We are hearing businesses say if I have to be shut down for two more months, I will not be able to reopen. Then the jobs go with them and those most vulnerable can't pay rent, can't get food or health care." –**John Gillison**,
City Manager, Rancho Cucamonga

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Left to right: Executive Director **Marcel Rodarte**, Operations Manager **Mayra Bonilla**; Government Affairs Manager **Michael Vuong**; Administrative Specialist **Alejandra Hernandez**.

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ICMA is closely monitoring the Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation and we want to confirm that the 2020 ICMA Annual Conference will be held as planned September 23-26, 2020 in Toronto. We are currently planning on opening [registration](#) and housing in early June 2020.

The safety of our attendees remains our highest priority and all appropriate measures are being taken to ensure this at the Metro Toronto Convention Center. If you have any questions feel free to contact the ICMA Conference and Events team at conferenceteam@icma.org.

Women in California Cities From San Pablo to Santa Ana



Sand City was incorporated in May, 1960 in Monterey County. Sand City is located on the shores of Monterey Bay with its neighbor city, Seaside. Its 2018 estimated populations is 398.

The Sand City post office was established in 1961, but it is combined with the Seaside Post Office zip code of 93955. The city serves the Monterey Peninsulas as a commercial center, currently providing about 3,000 job, and attracting 40,000 to 50,000 shoppers daily, before the coronavirus pandemic. **Linda Scholink** is the City Clerk and the Director of Administrative Services. **Connie Horca** is the Deputy City Clerk. **Laura Morales** is the Records Coordinator for the Sand City Police Department. Retired Monterey City Manager **Fred Meurer** served as Interim City Manager, but his employment agreement expired in June, 2019. He was only allowed to work limited hours under the CalPERS rules. He filled in following the resignation of City Administrator **Todd Bodem**. City Clerk **Linda Scholink** then served as Acting City Manager. Former Granby, Colorado Town Manager **Aaron Blair** was appointed City Manager in October, 2019.



Retired Indian Wells City Manager **Wade McKinney** relaxes at his home on a new Park Bench he and his wife Cheryl were gifted by their family on the occasion of their 40th Wedding Anniversary. Happy Anniverary "Godfather." Wade is the past CCMF Board President.

Women in California Cities From San Pablo to Santa Ana

Sanger, California is located in the County of Fresno. The City was incorporated in May, 1911. In 1886 the Southern Pacific Railroad referred to the area as *Sanger Junction*. The 2018 estimated population set the number of city residents at 25,313. **Tim Chapa** is the City Manager and **Becky Padron** is the City Clerk.



City Clerk **Becky Padron, CMC**, who also serves as Deputy Personnel Officer



Rolinda Hernandez is the Sanger Fire Department Administrative Secretary. Rolinda worked in a few private sector positions in Fresno starting in February, 1988 when she worked as a Senior Accounts Receivable Analyst. In July, 1997 Rolinda joined the staff of the Dinuba City Fire Department as a Staff Assistant. She left there after about two and a half years, and she worked as an Executive Assistant and National Service Administrative Assistant for a Fresno pump company. After nearly 10-years she went to work for Sunrise medical as a Customer Service Representative in 2009. In August, 2012 Rolinda joined the Sanger Fire Department staff as the Administrative Secretary. She is a graduate of Sanger High School, and she earned an AS degree in data processing and accounting from Heald College in Fresno.



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Andy Nickerson is the President of the firm.

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Roxanne Diaz, Steven L. Flower, Peter M. Thorson, Kevin Ennis, Gregory W. Stepanicich, Serita Young and Craig Steele are among the City Attorneys on the **RWG** staff.

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Roxanne Diaz is a member of the **Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF).**
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Women in California Cities From San Pablo to Santa Ana

Special "Thanks to the Sanger folks for their interest in the newsletter. Their inquiry is appreciated. Other executive women identified working in the City of Sanger include:



Karla Camarena is the Finance Department Accountant. She was awarded the Sanger Leadership Award at the annual employee recognition program in November, 2018.

Melissa Barragan is the Senior Code Enforcement Officer in Sanger. **Heather Gonzales** is the Human Resources Technician. **Linda Zavala** is the Parks & Recreation Division; Senior Coordinator.

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Women in California Cities From San Pablo to Santa Ana

Santa Ana is the county seat of Orange County. Founded in 1869, Santa Ana was incorporated in June, 1886. Following the Mexican-American War, which ended in 1848, many settlers arrived in the Santa Ana area along the Santa Ana River. Santa Ana was listed as a township in Los Angeles County in the 1860 and 1870 census, with an area encompassing what is now northern and central Orange County. Santa Ana is the second most populous city in Orange County with a 2018 estimated population of 332,725. **Kristine Ridge** is the City Manager and **Daisy Gomez** is the Clerk of the Council



Santa Ana City Manager **Kristine Ridge** joined the Anaheim city staff as an Internal Audit Manager in October, 1993 and she worked in that position for more than 13-years. She served as the Anaheim City Treasurer in 2006, and was the Anaheim Finance

Director starting in December, 2009. Kristine also served as the Human Resources Director (2007-2013) during a time of multiple responsibilities. In November, 2013 Kristine was appointed Deputy City Manager, and she was elevated to Assistant City Manager in September, 2014. When she left Anaheim to become the Laguna Niguel City Manager in 2018, she had worked for Anaheim for a little more than 24-years. Kristine left Laguna Niguel when she was selected for the Santa Ana City Manager post in May, 2019. Kristine earned a BS in accounting from Arizona State University, and an MA in organizational leadership from Chapman University.



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Retired City Managers **Fran David**, **John Shirey** and **Jeff Kolin**, a past President of the City Managers Department of the League of California Cities, all serve on the Avenue Advisory Board.



California Offices in El Dorado Hills, Fresno, Pleasanton, Sacramento and Westlake Village.

Fran Mancía may be reached at 559-288-7296. Fran is a member of the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF).



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Women in California Cities From San Pablo to Santa Ana



Lisa Rudloff is the Executive Director of the Santa Ana Parks, Recreation, and Community Services. Lisa began her career as a Recreation Supervisor in the City of Lodi in 1990. In 2001 she joined the Sunrise Recreation and Park District in Citrus Heights. She was appointed District Administrator in 2008. In November, 2011 Lisa became the Director of Parks & Recreation for the City of Encinitas. She took the Santa Ana position in October, 2018. Lisa earned a BA in recreation administration from the University of Oklahoma.



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Although NWFG is new, its partners **Pam Newcomb** and **Janees Williams**, have more than 30-years of experience working with local governments. "After many years in municipal finance we decided to form NWFG to provide an opportunity to work with long term business partners in a new venture" **Pam Newcomb** recently explained.



Pam Newcomb President



Pam entered the public sector with the County of San Bernardino, where she served as Housing Finance Officer and Deputy Director of the Department of Economic and Community Development. She began her investment banking career in 1984. She specializes in redevelopment and municipal facility financings while also developing and administering innovative programs in Mobile Home Park Non-Profit financing, as well as, multi- and single-family affordable housing transactions. **Pam Newcomb** is a FINRA Principal, holds a BA in Economics and Urban Geography from California State University, San Bernardino, and attended graduate school at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Pam graduated from Palm Springs High School in Palm Springs, California.

Janees Williams Senior Vice President



Janees began working in the banking industry with Union Bank of California. She has successfully structured and marketed more than \$2.5 billion of new money and refunding's. Janees has structured financings for cities, redevelopment/successor agencies, school and special districts. A significant portion of these transactions involved unrated and challenging credits, which has allowed her to develop the ability to meet her clients' financing goals. **Janees Williams** is a Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) general securities representative and holds a BA in business administration with a concentration in marketing from California State University, San Bernardino.

William D'Allaird Senior Trader

Bill is a valued member of the Newcomb Williams team. Bill has been in the securities business for more than 40-years, specializing in the sales, trading and underwriting of municipal bonds. He holds both FINRA General Securities Representative and Principal licenses. Bill graduated from the University of Illinois with a BS in Marketing.



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Jeff Duhamel, CEO/Principal Consultant
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This picture is circa 1971 and shows retired Cerritos city staff member **Michael Rittel** and his late mother, long-time Artesia City Clerk **Margaret Rittel**. Mike is a Vietnam veteran. He and his wife Stephanie currently live in Temecula. Mike is a former high school football star during his years at Richard Gahr High School. A Trackdown salute to both Mike and his mother Margaret.



Picking Up the Pieces: Former Anaheim City Manager **Dave Morgan** of Ralph Andersen & Associates is conducting the recruitment for an Encinitas City Manager. City Manager **Karen Brust** announced her retirement effective June 12.

She was appointed Encinitas City Manager in September, 2015. She is retiring after a municipal government career of 35-years. Candidates for the position should contact **Dave Morgan** at telephone number 916-630-4900. Arroyo Grande City Manager **Jim Bergman** has resigned effective immediately. Details of his leaving are unclear. Jim came to San Luis Obispo in March, 2017. He had previously served as the Planning and Building Director for San Luis Obispo County. He replaced former City Manager **Dianne Thompson**, who left the position in June, 2016. Public Works Director **Bill Robeson** is Acting City Manager and Community Development Director **Whitney McDonald** is Acting Deputy City Manager. Eureka City Manager **Dean Loffer** has been placed on Administrative Leave, and City Clerk **Pam Powell** has assumed the Acting City Manager role. Pam was appointed City Clerk in 2009. She has been a member of the Eureka city staff since 1993. Dean came to the city in December, 2019. He previously served as City Manager in New Brighton, Minnesota (2007-2019). In 2016 Dean received a 20-year ICMA Service Award. Like many cities, San Mateo is facing a significant reduction in revenues due to the COVID-19 pandemic. City Manager **Drew Corbett** is crafting potential actions to bring city spending and revenues under control. Spending cuts will likely come as a result of reductions in services and/or restructuring the manner in which the city pays its employees. It appears as if significant cuts will not be needed in fiscal year 2020-2021, but it will take a well-trimmed and leaner organization moving forward.



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Carla Hansen, President, Assistant to the City Manager, City of St. Helena



More Pieces Picked Up: Grissel Chavez is the City of Norwalk Director of Public Safety. Grissel began her public service career as an Administrative Intern in Pico Rivera, and a Planning Intern in the City of Bellflower in 2001. She joined the Norwalk city staff in July, 2001 as a Management Analyst, and in 2008 she was appointed Public Services Superintendent. In October, 2013

Grissel took the Superintendent of Facilities and Maintenance in the City of Downey. She then moved to the City of Signal Hill as the Deputy Director of Public Works in October, 2015. Grissel returned to the

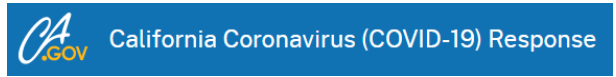


City of Norwalk in July, 2018 as the Director of Public Safety. She earned a BS in public administration from California State University, Dominguez Hills and an MPA from the University of Southern California (**USC**). Healdsburg City Manager **David Mickaelian** submitted his

resignation effective in July, after 15-years with the City, nearly six as City Manager. He resigned in order to accept appointment as General Manager of the Tahoe Donner homeowners in Truckee. The most recent numbers released by Health Officials show no COVID-19 coronavirus deaths in Placerville. However, the city is faced with making severe service cuts in view of the revenue reductions caused by the pandemic. Assistant City Manager **Dave Warren** estimates that unemployment in the city will hit 10%. City Manager **Cleve Morris** anticipates the closing of the public pool, a city staff hiring freeze, strict overtime limits and other expenditure containment measures. New Fontana City Manager **Mark Denny** is the former Dana Point City Manager (2017-2020). From 2008 until 2013 Mark worked as the Parks Director for the County of Orange, and he was the County's Chief Operating Officer from 2013 to 2016. He joined the Dana Point city staff in 2016 as the Deputy City Manager, and was appointed City Manager in 2017. Mark earned a BA from California State University, Fullerton.

"You need to start right now, pinching every penny, every dollar...The COVID virus isn't what's going to kill us--it's the economic collapse that's going to kill us."

---**Mike Drobesh**, former Placerville Planning Commissioner



Stay home, save lives

People can spread the COVID-19 virus even if they never have symptoms. Stay home except for essential needs. If you go out, stay 6-feet away from others and wear a cloth mask.

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus. Most people who fall sick with COVID-19 will experience mild to moderate symptoms and recover without special treatment.

The virus that causes COVID-19 is mainly transmitted through droplets generated when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or exhales. These droplets are too heavy to hang in the air, and quickly fall on the floor/ground or other surfaces.

You can be infected by breathing in the virus if you are within close proximity to someone who has COVID-19, or by touching a contaminated surface and then your eyes, nose or mouth.

<https://covid19.ca.gov/>

SHORTS: *Former Long Beach Chief Financial Officer **Mike Killebrew**, who has been serving as Dana Point's Assistant City Manager and Director of Administrative Services, is the new Dana Point City Manager. *West Hollywood Mayor Pro tem **Lindsey Horvath** is the new 2020-2021 President of the California Contract Cities Association. *When the late **William J. "Bill" Stark** resigned as the Cerritos City Manager in June, 1970, he was replaced by Assistant City Manager **John DeWeerd**. *Mayrant "M. D." "Mac" McKeown, born in June, 1923, served as City Manager in Darby Valley (1956-1961), Paramount (1961-1968), and Norwalk (1968-1970), before being appointed City Manager in Artesia in March, 1972. ***David N. Lund** got his start as an Administrative Assistant in Norwalk in April, 1970, and he was appointed City Administrator in Sierra Madre in September, 1974. *Vietnam War veteran **Frank G. Tripepi** joined the City of Hawaiian Gardens staff in October, 1971, and was appointed City Manager in the City of Rosemead in October, 1974. *After working in Administrative Assistant positions in Walnut, Downey and Rosemead, **Robert G. Gutierrez** was appointed City Manager in La Habra Heights in April, 1982. Cheers!***