



Shown here with the current Long Beach City Manager **Tom Modica**, **Pat West** has served as a local government official in the Gateway Cities area for the past 39-years. He served as the Paramount City Manager (1994-2005) and the Long Beach City Manager (2007-2019). Pat is now putting his management and economic development skills to work in a consultant capacity.

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



Professional Women in Cities from Temecula to Torrance

This September, 2020 issue addresses some of the women who work in California cities alphabetically listed between Temecula and Torrance. We continue our efforts to identify women professionals who work in California's cities. This is the 43rd issue dedicated to women in cities.

There are many well qualified and dedicated women serving in California's cities. The list is impressive. We address the rhetorical question: Where are the women in city management?

Of course, it is impossible to report career profiles that are not there. When individuals fail to post information, it is undiscoverable. We apologize to those we miss. Please believe that we try hard to acknowledge all those who should be.



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Professional Women in Cities from Temecula to Torrance

Temecula was incorporated in Riverside County in December, 1989. Temecula is a tourist and resort destination, with its Wine Country, Old Town Temecula, Balloon and Wine Festival and other special events. The estimated 2019 population is 114,761. **Aaron Adams** is the City Manager, and **Betsy Lowrey** is the Assistant to the City Manager. **Randi Johl** is the Director of Legislative Affairs and City Clerk.



Jennifer Hennessy is the Finance Director and City Treasurer for the City of Temecula. After working as an Accountant (2001-2004), Jennifer was hired as the Finance Director for the City of Chico in December, 2004. She worked for Chico for more than a dozen years before she joined the city staff in Temecula in April, 2013. Jennifer earned a BA from California State University, Chico, and an MBA from San Jose State University.



Christine Damko is the Economic Development Manager for the City of Temecula. She began her public service career as a Zoning Technician for the County of San Diego in November, 2001. In June, 2003 Christine became one of the County's Urban Planners. She left San Diego County in April, 2004 and joined the Temecula city staff as Urban Planner. Christine moved to Economic Development Analyst in July, 2008, and she was appointed Economic Development Manager in July, 2018. Since January, 2017 Christine has served on the Board for the California Association of Local Economic Development (CALED). She earned a BA from California State University, San Diego, and an MPA from California State University, Dominguez Hills.

Professional Women in Cities from Temecula to Torrance

Bea Barnett is a Temecula Community Services Superintendent. After working in the private sector for several years, starting in 1989 as a Marketing Associate for **UCLA** Extension, she joined the Temecula city staff as a Marketing & Patron Services/House Manager in June, 2005. Bea became the Theater Manager in September, 2011 and continues to have that position's responsibilities. She added the position of Community Services Superintendent in January, 2016. Bea has been with the Temecula city staff for more than 15-years. She earned a BA in communication studies and mass communications from the University of California, Los Angeles (**UCLA**).

Among other Temecula women serving in city government are: **Betsy Lowrey**, Assistant to the City Manager; **Dawn Adamiak**, Community Services Manager; and **Erica Russo**, Community Services Superintendent.



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Fran Mancia 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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 I've learned about life: it goes on."

—Robert Frost



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City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown

Penned by Trackdown Management

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Cerritos, California 90703-1442

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Professional Women in Cities from Temecula to Torrance

Temple City was incorporated in May, 1960 in Los Angeles County. The community was originally established at a townsite in May, 1923 by Walter P. Temple. Temple City's neighbors include the cities of: Pasadena, Arcadia, Rosemead, Monterey Park, San Marino and San Gabriel. The City's estimated 2019 population is 35,811. The City Manager is **Bryan Cook** and the City Clerk is **Peggy Kuo**.

Susan Paragas is the Temple City Administrative Services Director. After beginning her working career as a Senior Accountant in the private sector in 1999, Susan joined the city staff in Monrovia as an Accountant in September, 2003. She took an Accountant post in the City of Azusa in October, 2005 and began moving up in that city organization: Budget Analyst (2007-2011); Controller (2011-2012); Interim Director of Finance (2012); and Director of Finance (December, 2012-March, 2016). Susan then worked as the Director of Finance in the City of Industry from March, 2016 to May, 2018). She joined the Temple City staff in July, 2018 as the Director of Administrative Services. Susan earned a BA in economics from the University of California, San Diego, and an MBA from California State University, Northridge.



Hesty Liu joined the Temple City city staff in June, 2002. She is currently an Associate Planner for the City. Hesty earned a Master's degree in urban and regional planning from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.

"A baseball manager is a necessary evil."

—George "Sparky" Anderson



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Professional Women in Cities from Temecula to Torrance



Tinny Chan began her career as a Summer Intern in the Office of the Tate Controller in Los Angeles in July, 2011. She then Interned with the Indochinese American Political Action Committee until June, 2014. After serving as a Legal Secretary in a private law officer (2014-2016), she joined the city staff in Temple City in June, 2016 as a Management Analyst. Tinny earned a BA from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Others include: **Ashley Avery**, Management Analyst, Community Development; **Sylvia Robles**, Building & Housing Assistant; **Karen Johnson**, Personnel Analyst; and **Iliana Flores**, Administrative Assistant.



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Professional Women in Cities from Temecula to Torrance

Thousand Oaks is the second-largest city in Ventura County. The City was incorporated in 1964 and includes the central populated core of the Conejo Valley. Norwegians were among the first to settle in the Conejo Valley, and a Norwegian Colony was established there in the 1890s and early 1900s. The Thousand Oaks 2019 estimated population is 126,813. **Andrew P. Powers** is the City Manager and **Cynthia Rodriguez** is the City Clerk.



Melissa Hurtado joined the City of Thousand Oaks city staff in 2008 as a Revenue Analyst. She was promoted to Revenue Operations Manager in 2012 and then elevated to Assistant to the City Manager in April, 2019. One of her duties is to serve as the city's Public Information Officer. Melissa earned a BS in accounting from California Lutheran University.



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Professional Women in Cities from Temecula to Torrance



Jaime Boscarino was elevated to Director of Finance for Thousand Oaks at the end of 2018, after serving as the Deputy Director under former Director of Finance **John Adams**. Jaime was selected to be Director following John's resignation to become the CFO for the California State Bar. Jaime joined the city staff in 2005 as an Accountant. She worked her way up in the organization to Senior Financial Analyst before becoming the Deputy Director in 2013. Jaime earned a BA in business administration with an emphasis in accounting from California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo, and a Master of Public Policy and Administration from California Lutheran University.


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Professional Women in Cities from Temecula to Torrance



A native New Englander, **Heather Cousin**, 49, is the Thousand Oaks Library Services Director. The main library facility in Thousand Oaks is named for former City Manager **Grant R. Brimhall**. The Grant R.

Brimhall Library opened in 1982. Heather began her career as a Library Associate for the City of Riverside in 1999. She left after 8-years in Riverside. Prior to coming to the Library Director for the Simi Valley Public Library (June, 2013 – August, 2015) position, Heather worked in Arcadia and the Rancho Cucamonga libraries. Heather came to Thousand Oaks in August, 2015 to work as the Library Services Director. Heather earned a BA from the University of California, Riverside; an elementary education and teaching, multiple subject teaching credential from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA); and a Master of Library & Information Science (MLIS) from San Jose State University. Heather was awarded a Fellowship to attend the prestigious California State Library Eureka Leadership Program.

Samantha Yeung is the Division Manager for the Thousand Oaks City Library system.



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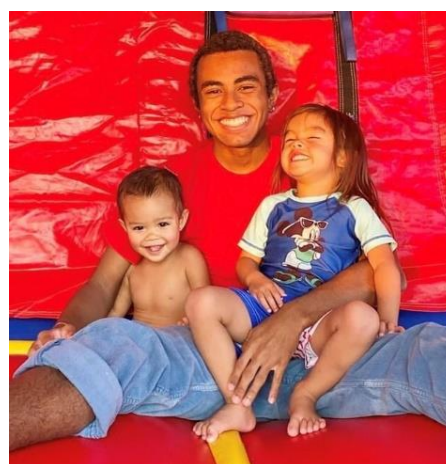
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Leilyn, Tyler and Koa; three Trackdown grandchildren, trying to stay cool in 109 degree September weather in Buena Park.

Professional Women in Cities from Temecula to Torrance



Tiburon is an incorporated town in Marin County, located on the Tiburon Peninsula, which extends into the San Francisco Bay. The name comes from the Spanish word *tiburón*, which means "shark." The first post office opened in Tiburon in 1884, but the town was not incorporated until June, 1964. The 2019 estimated population for Tiburon is 9,084. The Town Manager is **Greg Chanis** and the Town Clerk is **Lea Stefani**. **Alice Fredericks** is the Mayor.

Dina Tasini, 62, Tiburon Director of Community Development, previously worked in Dixon and Vallejo. She left Vallejo in 2017 to accept a position in the City of Dixon, and then left Dixon to come to Tiburon. Dina earned a Master's degree in architecture and urban planning.



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Professional Women in Cities from Temecula to Torrance



Torrance is in the South Bay region of Los Angeles County. In the early 1900s, real estate developer **Jared Sidney Torrance** with other investors decided to develop a mixed industrial-residential community. Today Torrance is the site of one of the nation's largest shopping centers; the Del Amo Fashion Center. The 2019 estimated population is 143,592. LeRoy J. Jackson is the longtime Torrance City Manager.



Fran Fulton has worked for the City of Torrance for "going on 23-years." She joined the Torrance city staff in April, 1998 as a Business Services Manager. Fran was named Economic Development Manager in January, 2005. Fran serves as a

Board Member for the Discover Torrance Tourism Business Improvement District, and for the South Bay Entrepreneurial Center. She studied at the University of Maryland, College Park.

Brianne (King) Cohen is the City of Torrance Civil Service Manager. Starting in October, 2005 she worked for the University of Washington Educational Outreach for three years, as a Distribution Student Worker, and then as an Enrollment Advisor. In August, 2009 Brianne took a private sector position as a Recruiter for a medical staff, and then in October, 2010 she became an Account Executive with another private sector company. She joined the Torrance city staff in August, 2013 as a Human Resources Technician and Volunteer Program Coordinator. Brianne became a human Resources Analyst in May, 2017 and she was named Civil Service Manager in September, 2019. Brianne earned a BBA from the University of Washington, and an MPA from California State University, Long Beach.

We apologized to those not included.

Samantha (Swaine) Bonifacio began her career in January, 2009 as a Planning Aide in the City of Kettering, Ohio. She took a Planning Intern position in January, 2010 in Mason, Ohio, and was then hired for Ecommerce Customer Support in the wine industry in the private sector. Samantha came to California in January, 2013 and continued to work as an Ecommerce Customer Support Representative in San Rafael. She joined the town staff in Tiburon in August, 2016 as a Building Permit Clerk, and she began working her way up in the organization: Community Development Aide (2018); Planning Technician (2018-July, 2020); and then Assistant Planner starting in July, 2020. Samantha earned a BA in urban planning from the University of Cincinnati.

Other individuals discovered include: **Suzanne Creekmore**, Director of Administrative Services; **Patti Pickett**; **Elena Kuraking**; and **Laurie Nilsen**.



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Roxanne Diaz, Steven L. Flower, Kevin Ennis, Peter M. Thorson, and Gregory W. Stepanicich, Serita Young and Craig Steele are among the many City Attorneys on the **RW&G** staff. **Roxanne Diaz** serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF).

RWG serves as City Attorney for the following cities and towns: Agoura Hills; Artesia; Banning; Beverly Hill; Brea; Buena Park; Calimesa; Covina; Fairfield; Hidden Hills; Highland; Indio; Jurupa Valley; La Mirada; Manhattan Beach; Mill Valley; Monrovia; Moorpark; Norwalk; Rancho Cucamonga; Ross; San Marino; Seal Beach; South El Monte; Temecula; Upland; Westlake Village; and Yucaipa.

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Historically, **Glenn Watson, Richard Richards**, and colleague **Robert G. Beverly** opened the **RWG** firm's first offices in downtown Los Angeles in the fall of 1954. At the time, the firm maintained its founders' focus on real estate and business litigation. The attorneys were joined from the first day and for the next 43 years by **Beth Donald**, who served as both a Legal Secretary and Office Manager. From the early 1970s until her death in 1997, she was the Municipal Law Administrator – responsible for assisting City Clerks in preparing their meeting agendas, assisting City Attorneys in drafting resolutions and ordinances, handling the billing for most of the Firm's cities and maintaining (in her head) an encyclopedic database of California municipal law.

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Temecula:

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Katie Hearther, a University of Washington graduate, shown during a special research expedition to Greenland. This picture graced the front page of the September, 2018 issue of the newsletter.



Picking Up the Pieces: Whitney McDonald, the Arroyo Grande Community Development Director since February, has been selected to serve as the next Arroyo Grande City Manager. Whitney previously worked in the San Luis Obispo County Counsel's Office. She is an attorney who specialized in land

use and zoning law. Former City Manager **Jim Bergman** resigned. Public Works Director **Bill Robeson** has served as Interim City Manager. After leaving the county in 2016, Whitney was a Senior Attorney with **Richards Watson and Gershon** (August, 2016-February, 2020), where she also worked prior to her county service (August, 2007-November, 2010). Whitney earned a BA from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and a Juris Doctorate from the University of California, Los Angeles, School of Law (**UCLA**). Former Fairfield City Manager **Byron Gale Wilson** died September 1, 2020 in his Auburn home at the age of 91. Gale served as the Fairfield City Manager for 32-years, from 1956 to 1988. The city grew in population from 15,000 to close to 77,000 people during his service as City Manager. Gale was born in Utah in July, 1929. He became the Fairfield City Manager at age 26. Redding City Manager **Barry Tippin** appointed **Jerrod Vanlandingham** to be the new city Fire Chief. The new Chief has 25-years of experience with the City of Longmont, Colorado. **Loree Pryce** is the new City Manager in Lakeside, Oregon. Loree previously worked in the Cities of Westlake Village, Ventura, and Santa Barbara. She was also a Project Engineer for the Casitas Water District. Loree earned a degree in environmental engineering from California State Polytechnic



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Kosmont Transactions Services, Inc. served as
Municipal Advisor to the City for this transaction

University, San Luis Obispo. Rocklin Chief of Police **Chad Butler** will serve as Interim City Manager, while a nationwide executive recruitment is conducted. City Manager **Steve Rudolph** retired effective September 21. [Cannot think of Rocklin without thinking of former longtime Rocklin City Manager **Dr. Carlos A. Urrutia** (1984-2010).] Claremont Director of Human Services **Anne Turner** resigned effective September 15. Assistant City Manager **Chris Paulson** will serve as Interim Human Services Director. Anne joined the Claremont city staff in May, 2014. She has served as an Adjunct Professor for the University of La Verne (2007-2014), and for the University of the West (2014-2016). She earned a BA from Pitzer College, and an MA and DPA from the University of La Verne. Willits City Manager **Stephanie Garrabrant-Sierra** announced the appointment of a new Willits Chief of Police. The new Chief served as a member of the San Diego Police Department for nearly 25-years. She also served on the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST), and she was a Public Safety Lieutenant at the University of Southern California (**USC**). She earned BS in criminology and justice studies at California State University, San Marcos.



"You just have to want it more than everyone else."

"Before you can achieve, you must believe...in yourself."

"Never forget the Power of Practice."

-Mike Trout, Los Angeles Angels



More Pieces Picked Up: South Pasadena City Manager **Stephanie DeWolfe** has retired from her position as City Manager effective September 12. Fire Chief **Paul Riddle** is the Acting City Manager. Stephanie served as City Manager from November, 2017. She previously worked for Pasadena and the City of West Hollywood, where she served as Deputy City

Manager. She earned a BA in urban planning from Michigan State University, and a Master in real estate development from the University of Southern California (USC). She also earned a certificate in public relations for the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). Benicia City Manager **Lorie Tinfow** has submitted her resignation, and the Benicia Chief of Police, **Erik Upson**, will serve as the Acting City Manager until future action. Lori served as City Manager from April, 2017, and previously served as the City Manager in the City of Pacifica (2013-2017). She held executive positions in Saratoga, Pleasanton and Walnut Creek. Lori earned a BS in applied earth science from Stanford University and an MCRP in city and regional Planning from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. Antioch City Manager **Ron Bernal** announced that **Rosanna Bayon Moore** is the new Assistant City Manager in Antioch starting in late September. Rosanna has served as the Brawley City Manager for the past 9-years. She worked in Community Development prior to becoming City Manager in Brawley. She earned a BA from the University of California, Berkeley, and an MPA from Columbia University. Rosanna is also an alum of the Northern California Coro Fellows Program. **Dominique Samario** is the new Public Information Officer in the City of Menifee. She worked for the City of Santa Barbara (2007-2012) as the City TV Producer & Reporter, and she also served as a Producer & Reporter for the County of Santa Barbara. She worked in several media position prior to take an Administrative Analyst and PIO post in Santa Barbara. In December, 2018 Dominique joined the Goleta staff as a Management Analyst, working there until joining Menifee. She earned a BA and MPA from the University of Southern California (USC), and a Professional Certificate in Marketing, Branding and Public Relation from the University of California, Santa Barbara. San Luis Obispo Chief of Police **Deanna Cantrell** is leaving after 5-years on job and accepting the Chief of Police position in the City of Fairfield. Her last day in San Luis Obispo is September 30, 2020. Deanna took the San Luis Obispo position in January,



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2016, after serving more than 21-years with the City of Mesa, Arizona. City Manager **Derek Johnson** said the City of San Luis Obispo will begin a national recruitment to fill Chief Cantrell's position. Healdsburg City Manager **David Mickaelian**, 52, resigned after 15-years with the City. After serving as City Manager for the past 6-years, he took the position of General Manager of the Tahoe Donner Association of Homeowners. **David Kiff**, the retired Newport Beach City Manager, is serving as Interim City Manager in Healdsburg.

SHORTS: ***Jaime Boscarino**, Director of Finance for Thousand Oaks, lives with her husband and two children in Simi Valley. *Oakley Director of Finance **Tim Przybyla** is known to ride his dirt bike around the Mount Diablo foothills. *Former San Clemente City Manager **James Makshanoff** is considering filing a wrongful termination lawsuit against the city. *Former Ojai City Manager **Rob Clark** (2011-2016) previously worked as the Town Manager in Mammoth Lakes, and currently is a Labor & Employee Relations Manager for the County of Santa Barbara. ***Mario A. Marquez**, the older brother of former Hawaiian Gardens City Manager **Ernesto Marquez**, is the new American Legion National Director of Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation. *Before **Elaine Andersen** was appointed Folsom City Manager, she worked for the City of Sacramento City Manager's Office and Department of Public Works. *Retired Indian Wells and Atascadero City Manager, and past President of CCMF, **Wade McKinney** and his family were on the beach at Camp Pendleton this past month. *La Puente City Council Member **Daniel C. Holloway** unexpected and suddenly passed away earlier this month; condolences to his family, friends and the people of La Puente. *California Governor **Gavin Newsom** is among the Founders of PlumJack Winery in Oakville specializing in premium Cabernet Sauvignon wines. *Two former Rosemead City Managers **Frank G. Triepi** and **Bill Crowe** were recently spotted together on a morning walk along the beach and pier at Huntington Beach. *Recently retired Weed City Manager **Ron Stock** is one of five candidates for two seats on the Weed City Council. "Thanks" to **Pat West** and best wishes for success!