



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

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Former City of Cerritos City Manager **Art Gallucci** retired at the end of June 2023. **Robert A. Lopez** was selected to succeed Art. Art was appointed city manager in 1991, succeeding the 18-year tenure of City Manager **Gaylord Knapp**. Art worked for the city 51-years, joining the Cerritos city staff in 1971. Art is a highly respected public manager and is missed by local government and the public service, at large. The local newspaper asks the question; How many cities in the country have had only two city managers over the past 49 years?

## California Public Managers in Six More "B" Cities

Cities included in this May Issue of the City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown are cities listed as an alphabetical continuation of the May issue: [Bishop](#), [Biggs](#), [Blue Lake](#), [Blythe](#), [Brawley](#), and [Brea](#). These six cities include city managers **Deston Dishion**; **Josh F.W. Cook**; **Amanda Mager**; **Mallory Crecelius**; **Tyler Salcido**; and **Bill Gallardo**. These cities are found in the counties of Inyo, Humboldt, Riverside, Imperial, and Orange.

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### California Public Managers in Six More “B” Cities



Bishop, California is on Highway 395 south of Lake Crowley below the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada Mountain range. It is at the center of a beautiful mountain environment and a prolific trout fishing area at the

northern end of the Owens Valley. Bishop is the only incorporated city in Inyo County, which was established in 1866. The city of Bishop is named for Bishop Creek that flows through the community out of the Sierras. Bishop Creek was named for **Samuel Addison Bishop**, an early Owens Valley settler. A Bishop Creek post office opened in 1870 and closed in 1889, and then from 1935 to 1938. The first Bishop post office opened in 1889. The city was incorporated in May 1903. The 2020 population is set at 3,819. The Bishop City Administrator is **Deston Dishion** and the City Clerk is **Robin Pickens**. The Bishop Finance Director is **Ethan Aukee**, and the Community Services Manager is **Dan McElroy**. The Public Works Director is **Nora Gamino**. The Bishop Fire Chief is **Bret Russell**, and the Chief of Police is **Nate Derr**. **Dean J. Pucci** of the Jones and Mayer law firm serves as the Bishop City Attorney.

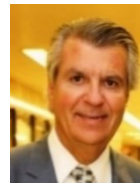
The late retired Rosemead city manager and Willdan executive **Frank G. Tripepi** used to annually organize a trout fishing opening day trip based in Bishop. Then Bishop City Administrator **Rick Pucci**, who later served as a member of the Inyo County Board of Supervisors, would join the group, schedule permitting. **Rick** worked for the City of Bishop for nearly 30 years, joining the city staff in 1980. He previously served as Assistant City Manager in Temple City and as a La Mirada Administrative Assistant.



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

**Anthony Gonsalves** and two of his sons, **Jason Gonsalves** and **Paul Gonsalves**, are expert local government lobbyists. Founded by former Assembly Member **Joe A. Gonsalves**, the firm represents 50-plus cities and is a key player in city legislation. The firm works closely with the League of California Cities

**Anthony Gonsalves** is a long time Member of the CCMF Board of Trustees

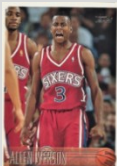


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Former Bishop Public Works official **Deston Dishion** has served as City Administrator since April 2022. He joined the city staff in December 1995, and was promoted to Public Works Supervisor in September 2001. Deston was appointed Public Works Director in February 2020. He was born and raised locally and is the son of former Bishop Chief of Police **Bruce Dishion**. After studying at West Hills Community College in Coalinga, Deston earned a BA from California State University, Fresno.



**Frank and Rhonda Tripepi** with **Mark Risco** of **Willdan Financial**. Mark is known to dip a trout line with Frank.



"When you are not practicing, someone else is getting better."  
---**Allen Iverson**

**Frank G. Tripepi passed away on June 19, 2022, at the age of 74: Comments by former Rosemead Finance Director: Part of Karen Ogawa’s Eulogy to Frank**

My first local government job was with the City of Rosemead. For those who had the opportunity to work with him you know his leadership style was unmatched by anyone else. He truly embodied what it means to lead with service. Service to others. Always making sure that we were taken care of whether at work or in our personal life.

For example, twice a year Frank would gather his Rosemead team for a fishing trip. In late April for open day and November for the closing of the season in Eastern Sierra Nevada, Mono County. Our favorite fishing holes were at the June Lake Loop just south of Mammoth Lakes. We would fish at Crowley, Rock Creek, Sabrina, and Gull Lake to name a few.

There would be about a dozen or more of us that were fortunate to get the “fishing” invitation. The night before the first day of fishing, I would stay up all night fiddling around with the hooks and preparing the leaders and around 3:30 AM you could hear down the hallway someone banging on room doors and yelling “get up the sun is going to rise soon, get up”! That was Frank’s friendly morning wake up call. He wanted to make sure we all caught limits. So, we were at the site well before sunrise and first on the lake to stake out the best fishing holes. Frank would suggest where the best place to plant your pole. He was usually the first individual with a line in the water, and one of the first to catch a limit.

Another example of Frank’s passion to lead with service was that he would arrange access to a closed utility intake that was not open to the public. This intake had tons of rainbow trout. We would tell all the newbies where not to fish and that was on Frank’s rock. He found a deep pool where the trout would swim back and forth in the early mornings and late afternoon. While Frank, on his rock, reeling in trout, some of us would be sunbathing on the huge boulders sipping on coffee with a touch of blueberry brandy just trying to keep warm. We were all so lucky to not have fallen into the intake.

After our first day of fishing, we would gather for our Rosemead family dinner at the Firehouse restaurant in Bishop. Frank would always order scrumptious escargot in garlic butter. We would spend dinner laughing at all our fishing stories from earlier in the day.

**California Public Managers in Six More “B” Cities**

Bishop Recreation Supervisor **Waylon Cleland** works with Parks & Recreation Supervisor **Dan McElroy**. Waylon has served as the city’s administrator for the Bishop Coed Adult Soccer League, among other activities.

Former Bishop City Administrator **James “Jim” Tatum** (1958-2019) passed away on January 27, 2019, at the age of 60 after a courageous battle with cancer. Jim retired as the Bishop City Administrator in 2018. He had served in that position starting in 2014. Jim previously served 20-years as CEO of the Tri-County Fairgrounds, as the Inyo County Deputy Public Works Director. Jim also had an active role with the Bishop Little League, and he was the Baseball Coach for the Bishop Union High School. He also was known as the “tractor man” at the California High School Rodeo State Finals and other fair arena events.



**HdL** was founded in 1983 by former City Manager the late **Robert “Bob” Hinderliter**. **HdL** expanded and improved with the help of a partnership with former City Manager **Lloyd de Llamas**, the firm’s retired Executive Chairman.



**Andy Nickerson** is the President/CEO. Other members of the **HdL** team include **Vikki Beatley, Paula Cone, Barry Foster, Robert Gray, Kimberly Konczak, David McPherson,** and **Bobby Young**.

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### California Public Managers in Six More “B” Cities



Biggs, formerly known as “Biggs Station,” is a Butte County city. A Biggs Station post office opened in 1871 and the name was changed to Biggs in 1884. Biggs was incorporated in June 1903.

The city is a full-service, general law city. Its population is 2,066. Biggs is known as the “Heart of Rice Country.” The city is named for Major **Marion Biggs**, who was elected to the California State Assembly in 1867. He served two terms in the United States House of Representative from 1887-1891. **Josh F.W. Cook** is the City Administrator and Director of Utilities, and **Roben Benish** is the City Clerk. The City Planner is **Bob Summerville**, and **Paul Pratt** is the Public Works Superintendent.



This photo was taken with a cell phone on the 91 Freeway in the Santa Ana Canyon.

**Josh F.W. Cook** has served as the Biggs City Administrator and Director of Utilities since February 2023. It is his first municipal position. Prior to joining the Biggs city staff, Josh was a Principal with Cook Communications, Government Affairs, where he worked for more than 32 years in Sacramento. Josh also has served as a member of the U.S. Forest Service Resources Advisory Council since March 2017. He got his public service career started as a Senior Consultant with the California State Senate beginning in January 2001. From December 2012 to July 2019, Josh served as the Chief of Staff of the Minority Caucus for the California State Assembly, and from 2019 to March 2023 he was the California State Senate’s Chief of Staff. Josh has also been an Associate Professor with the Sol Price School of Public Policy at the University of Southern California (**USC**) since May 2016. Josh earned an AA in language arts from Butte College in Oroville, and a BS in general studies from Charter Oak State College in New Britain, Connecticut that offers career-focused online degrees and certificates. He also earned an MS in education from California State University, East Bay. Josh also serves as the Chaplain for the Butte County Sheriff’s Department.



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**Alexander Smith**  
Chief Executive Officer

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

**California Public Managers in Six More "B" Cities**



Blue Lake is an incorporated city in the County of Humboldt. The city, formerly known as "Scottsville," is located on the Mad River. Blue Lake is a ten- minute drive from Arcata. The late **Dan Heil**, a founder of *Willdan*, loved to fish the Mad River. Blue Lake was incorporated in April 1910. Its 2020 population is 1,208. In 2017 the Los Angeles Times ran an article about the only all-female city council in California's 482 cities: Blue Lake. **Amanda L. Mager** is the city manager and **April Sousa** is the City Clerk.



**Amanda L. Mager** was appointed Blue Lake city manager starting in April 2016. She also serves as the Blue Lake City Clerk. Amanda is 47 years old. She is a longtime resident of Blue Lake.

**John Berchtold** served as the Blue Lake city manager starting in July 2010 after working as the Lake Butler, Florida city manager (2007-2010). John succeeded City Manager **Dave Fonfara**, who resigned in June 2009. Previous to Dave, **Wiley Buck** served as city manager. He left office in 2008. John earned an MA from Central Michigan University. He is a Life Member of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA).



Wesley Wolf, Mike Egan, Wade McKinney and Ron Molendyk

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The NEXT "**Proof of Life**" Lunch is planned for Thursday, June 27, 2024

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## California Public Managers in Six More "B" Cities



Blythe was named for San Francisco businessman **Thomas Henry Blythe**. He established water rights to the Colorado River in 1877. The town was initially called "Blythe City." The

first post office opened in 1908 about the time the town's name was shortened to Blythe. The original plans to develop the area seemed to die with **George Irish** in 1880 and **Thomas Blythe** in 1883. After the deaths work in the valley stopped. The railroad reached Blythe in 1916, which helped with the development of the area. Blythe was incorporated in July 1916. The city's 2020 population is 18,317. The city continues to fight the State's impending closure of the Chuckawalla Valley State Prison. **Mallory Crecelius** is the Interim City Manager and the Blythe City Clerk. The Finance Director is **Christa Elms** and **Cristina Crowe** is the Recreation Supervisor and Sports Coordinator. **Joshua Coe** is the Interim Chief of Police.



**Mallory Crecelius** is serving as the Blythe Interim City Manager and also continues to maintain her City Clerk responsibilities. Mallory began her Interim City Manager tenure in March 2015. She joined the Blythe city staff in

2004 and worked as a Deputy Administrator and Director. Mallory earned an MBA from California Baptist University.

**Jennifer Wellman** worked as the Blythe Planning Director for six years after her service with a United States Marine Corps. She was with the City of Blythe from September 1995 until February 2009, starting as an Office Assistant. Jennifer earned a BA and Master of Public Affairs and Public Management from Park University. She also earned a DPA from the University of Illinois. She currently works for the Illinois Department of Public Health.



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--**Ryder Todd Smith**, President



Retired Coronado City Manager **Mark Ochenduszko** is well-known for his amazing fine art photography of landscapes and outdoor subjects. Here he captures his five-year old grandson sliding into home at a Tecolote Baseball League game.

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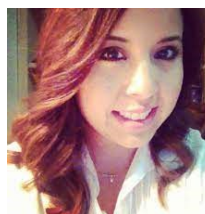
## California Public Managers in Six More "B" Cities



Imperial County's City of Brawley, formerly known as "Braly," has significant cattle and feed industry elements to its local economy. The Imperial Land Company laid out the town in 1902 and named it for **J.**

**H. Braly**, the landowner. He refused to allow the use of his name, so the name was changed to Brawley. The first Brawley post office was opened in 1903 and the city was incorporated in 1908. The city, as other Imperial Valley communities, is below sea level. The 2020 population is 26,416. San Diego State University has a satellite campus in Brawley. **Tyler Salcido** is the City Manager and **Thomas Garcia** is the Assistant City Manager.

Back in 2007, **Tyler Salcido** worked for the City of Brawley as Assistant Finance Director for seven months and returned to the private sector where he began his working career in 1990 until he joined the city staff again in 2019. Tyler worked for a packing company as Controller for nearly 17 years. In March 2019, Tyler was hired to serve as the Brawley Interim Finance Director and in May 2019 he was appointed Finance Director. While serving as Finance Director, Tyler stepped in to become the Interim City Manager in September 2020. After 3 months, he was named City Manager, while retaining the Finance Director duties. In February 2021 Tyler became the full-time City Manager. He earned a BS in accounting from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.



Brawley's Acting Finance Director is **Silvia Luna**. Silvia began her working career in 2010 and worked primarily in the private sector until joining the Brawley city staff as a Management Analyst in 2020. She

was named Finance Manager in 2022 and as Acting Director in March 2023. She earned a BS in accounting from and an MBA from CETYS Universidad, and a BA from City University of Seattle.



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### California Public Managers in Six More "B" Cities

Brawley Assistant City Manager **Thomas Garcia** is a member of the Board of Directors for the State Association of County Employee Retirement System (SACRS). Thomas is a retired Deputy Sheriff with the Imperial County Sheriff's Office. He served for more than 27 years starting in March 1995. Thomas joined the Brawley city staff in July 2022. He earned an AA from Imperial Valley College and a BA in public administration from Northern Arizona University.



The Walter Pyramid on the campus of Long Beach State University where the NCAA Men's Volleyball Championship was held. The picture is by **Jacki "Cookie" Beebe**.



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

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

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**Gregory D. Korduner**

Retired Huntington Park City Manager **Greg Korduner** and his educator wife **Karen Korduner**. Greg previously served as city manager in South El Monte and for the city of El Monte. He also completed "interim" assignments in La Habra Heights and Los Alamitos. He began his career with staff positions in Norwalk and Artesia. Karen retired from the Downey Unified School District. Greg, AKA, "Dune Man," earned a BA and MPA from California State University, Long Beach. Greg is among the Founders of the "Proof of Life" program.

## California Public Managers in Six More "B" Cities

**Rachel Fonseca** is the Parks and Recreation Director for the City of Brawley. She joined the city staff in 2020. Her father, **Daniel Ramos** retired from the city after 32 years in Parks and Recreation. Rachel is a life-long resident of the city. She graduated from Brawley Union High School. She earned an MPA. Rachel is a member of the Kiwanis Club. She also serves as a member and Secretary for the Board of Directors for the Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District.



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Retired City Manager **Tim Kerr** and a family group at a 2024 San Francisco Giants game at Oracle Park. Tim served as city manager in Turlock, Ceres and Livingston.



## California Public Managers in Six More “B” Cities



Brea began as an oil production region that changed to a citrus orchard area in northern Orange County. In 1894 the Union Oil Company of California began drilling operations. In 1908 the community of Randolph, named

for Epes Randolph of the railway, was established south of Brea Canyon for oil workers and their families at the Brea-Olinda Oil Field. Hall of Fame baseball legend **Walter Johnson** grew up in Olinda and as a boy worked in the oil fields there. In 1911 Olinda and Randolph merged to become Brea. The city was incorporated in February 1917. Its 2020 population is 47,325. Brea has been blessed with some outstanding city managers through the years.

**Bill Gallardo** is the current city manager and **Lillian Harris-Neal** is the City Clerk. **Kristin Griffith** is the Brea Administrative Services Director. Assistant City Manager **Chris Emeterio** also serves as the Community Services Director. **Jason Killebrew** is the Community Development Director.



**Denise and Larry F. Pennell** and former Kern County Sheriff **Carl Sparks** at Skillet's Diner in Bakersfield. Larry served as city manager for Benicia, Galt, and Wasco. He also completed interim assignments in McFarland and St. Helena.

Brea City Manager **Bill Gallardo** joined the city staff in April 1990 as a Management Analyst. In September 1990, Bill was promoted to Revenue Manager, and he worked in that position until August 2004, when he was elevated to the Brea Finance Director position. In April 2010, Bill was named Assistant City Manager and Administrative Services Director. He was selected to serve as the Brea City Manager starting in July 2015. Bill has worked for the city for more than 34 years. He earned a BS from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. In 2020, Bill received a 30-year ICMA Service Award.

**Wayne Wedin** worked as the Brea City Manager for 15 years from August 1968 to February 1983. Wayne worked as an Administrative Interim for Pasadena, 1960-1961, and with the City of Santa Fe Springs. He was the Assistant City Manager there from 1965-1968. **Frank Benest** served as the Brea City Manager from June 1989 to April 2000, after a stint as the Colton City Manager (1986-1989). Frank retired as the Palo Alto City Manager in 2008. He continues to serve ICMA. **Tim O'Donnell** was the Brea City Manager from 2000 until his retirement in July 2015. Tim previously worked in Bellflower, Garden Grove and Signal Hill.



**Pat West** served nearly 40-years in city government. He has developed successful strategies and paths to issues facing local government. Pat can help you, whether you are a City Manager looking for ways to turn your city around, or a developer needing assistance navigating the complexities of the political and/or entitlement process.

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

**Pat West** was honored with the League of California Cities 2019 Wes McClure Award for City Managers of Distinction.



Pat has had numerous successful experiences with public-private partnerships.

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Brea Assistant City Manager and Community Services Director **Chris Emeterio** joined the city staff in 1982 as a Community Services Leader. In 1999, Chris was promoted to Community Services Manager, and he was elevated to Director in January 2011. Chris added the Assistant City Manager duties to his Community Services Director position in 2015. Chirs earned a BA in history from California State University, Fullerton.



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Retired City Manager **Donald R. Duckworth** and **Rebecca Schmitt** at The Grand Bazaar during a vacation trip to Istanbul. Don held executive positions in Calabasas, Santa Clarita, Arcadia, Visalia, San Clemente and Simi Valley.

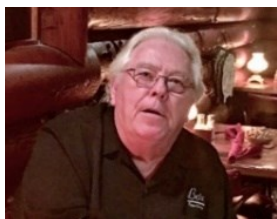


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**Picking Up the Pieces:** News writer **Priscilla Lara** reports that the City of Arvin City Council voted to eliminate the Assistant City Manager position. Arvin Mayor **Daniel Borrelli** said the city has other needs before an Assistant City Manager. Arvin City Manager **Jeff Jones** doubles as the Director of Public Works. Jeff had planned to combine

the Assistant City Manager position with the duties of Human Resources and Community Development Director. He saw the proposal as “a cost savings move.” Former Salinas City Manager Steve Carrigan is pursuing legal action against the City of San Bernardino regarding dismissal. He claims that, though he was the top choice in their recruitment, the offer he accepted was rescinded based on racial considerations. The offer withdrawal occurred after he left his job in Salinas. San Leandro City Manager **Fran Robustelli** is the finalist for the City Manager position in St. Pete Beach, Florida. Fran has been the San Leandro city manager for the past four years. After working for the Dublin San Ramon Services District for 16 years in human resources, Fran was appointed Director of Human Resources for the City of Hayward in March 2010. She took a similar director's post for the City of Walnut Creek in March 2014 and rose in that organization to Assistant City Manager in August 2015. In 2019 Fran served as the Napa Assistant City Manager in 2019 and was selected to be the San Leandro City Manager in May 2021. Fran earned a BA from the University of South Florida and an MPA from the University of Missouri, Columbia. Retired city of Moreno Valley city manager **Gene Rogers** passed away this month. He was 74 years old. Gene had been battling leukemia and has been declining in health for several months. Gene lived in Pebble Beach. He served as the Moreno Valley city manager from August 1996 to January 2006. Gene began his public service career working for the City of Sunnyvale as an Administrative Aide in February 1978. Following his retirement, Gene took a number of “interim” assignments, including Interim City Manager in the cities of Coachella, and Davis. He earned a BS and MS from San Jose State University. Gene was an exceptionally good golfer and played in some elite quality tournaments. In 2019, Gene received a 35-year ICMA Service Award. Pacific Grove has been without a city manager since City Manager **Ben Harvey** and the city mutually parted ways in July 2023. **Robert Perrault** has served as Interim City Manager since November 2023. City of Marina Assistant City Manager **Mathew Mogensen** was selected to be the next Pacific Grove city manager. Prior to working for Marina, Mathew worked for the City of Fountain Valley from 2008 to 2018. He was an Assistant Planner for the City of Brea starting in July 2005. Mathew earned a BA in geography from California State University, Fullerton and MPA from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.

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**More Pieces Picked Up:** Vallejo has retained **Beverli Marshall** to serve as Interim City Manager. She replaced City Manager **Mike Malone**, who retired April 19. Beverli most recently served as city manager for Glenwood Springs, Colorado. She earned an MPA from the University of Alaska,

Anchorage, and a Doctorate in business administration from Alliant International University. **David Kiff** is the new City Manager for the City of Laguna Beach. After working in the State Capitol as a Committee Consultant for the California State Senate (1988-1993), Dave served as the Newport Beach City Manager (1998-2018). Since September 2018, he has served as the Interim Executive Director to the Association of California Cities – Orange County. Dave earned a BA from California State University, Sacramento, and a Master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania. Dave is a four-time participant in the Ironman Triathlon. **Ryan Arthur Kintz** is the new Assistant City Manager for the City of Carpinteria effective April 29, 2024. Ryan has served as the Assistant to the City Manager in Goleta since April 2020. After some positions with the University of California, Santa Barbara starting in 2007, and working in the private sector, including a Biologist Aide position with the Cachuma Operation & Maintenance Board, Inc., Ryan joined the Ventura city staff as an Environmental Services Specialist. He took a Public Works Administration post with the City of Goleta. Ryan became the Assistant to the City Manager in April 2020. Ryan earned a BS and a Master of Environmental Science from the University of California, Santa Barbara. Moorpark City Manager **Troy Brown** received a \$20,000 increase in pay in early April taking his pay to \$263,973. This 8.2% increase followed an annual performance evaluation by the city council. Troy began his Moorpark city manager service in March 2018. He previously worked as the city manager for the city of Tracy. Troy succeeded city manager **Steve Kueny**, who retired following a Moorpark city manager tenure of 33 years. Menifee Assistant City Manager **Rochelle Clayton** is the new Deputy City Manager for the City of San Bernardino. She has served as the Menifee Assistant City Manager since July 2021. Prior to her Menifee tenure she served as Deputy City Manager and Administrative Services Director for the City of Banning. Rochelle also held positions with the West Valley Water District in Rialto, the High Desert Water District in Yucca Valley and she worked as the Finance Director for the city of La Habra Heights. She earned a BA from California State University, San Bernardino. **Dr. Frank Benest**, **Chantal Cotton Gaines** and **Rod Gould** authored an article published in March 2024 issue of PM Magazine entitled: *Defending American Democracy at the Local Level*. Frank is a retired Palo Alto City Manager, Rod is a retired Santa Monica City Manager and Chantal is the Deputy City Manager for the City of Palo Alto. Their PM Magazine contribution is a



good read. Local government must guard against attacks on democracy. Once again, the California City, City Manager drama continues. Just when it was thought **Patrick Marsh** was selected and going to sign an employment agreement to be City Manager, the contract negotiations failed, and Patrick is out. California City Human Resources Director **Latisha Lamberth** has been tapped as Acting City Manager, while recruitment continues. Others who have city manager serves include **Michele Martinez**, who resigned after 10 weeks, and **Marín Piñon**, **Joe Barragan**, **Inges Elmes**, **Jim Hart** and **Doug Dunford**. Since May 2023, Doug has served as the city manager for the City of Ceres. In 2013, former Westminster Chief of Police and City Manager **James Mitchell "Mitch" Waller**, was killed on Laguna Canyon Road near Laguna Beach when he was riding his bicycle. A 25-year-old woman swerved for an unknown reason and hit Mitch and his fellow cyclist with her car. Mitch died at the accident scene and his riding friend **Kevin Beach** was taken to a Mission Viejo hospital. Mitch joined the Westminster police department in 1984. He became Chief of Police in December 2009. Mitch was 53 years old at his death. The driver of the car was not suspected of driving under the influence at the time. Indio City Manager **Bryan Montgomery** has a new Indio Director of Finance to work with. Ruby began her public service career in 2002 with the City of Brawley as an accounting assistant. She worked briefly for the Imperial Irrigation District and returned to Brawley in 2007 as Assistant Finance Officer. Ruby was promoted to Finance Director in 2010 and worked in that position until 2018 when she took the Assistant Finance Director post for the City of Indian Wells. Ruby earned a BS from California State University, San Bernardino, and she is pursuing an MPA with a concentration in financial management. **Rocky J. Fluhart** passed away in January 2012 from Alzheimer's. He was born June 11, 1951 in Norwalk, California. He served as Assistant City Manager in Lompoc before he joined the Ogden, Utah city staff as the Director of Public Works in 1984 and became the CAO in 1992. He began his public service career as an Intern with the City of Burbank. Rocky became the Chief Administrative Officer for Salt Lake City, Utah in 2000. He earned a BA from Weber State University and an MPA from Kansas University.

"Nothing endures but change."  
---Heraclitus



**Still More Pieces Picked Up:**

Moorpark Deputy Community Development Director **Douglas Spondello** is the next Moorpark Community Development Director. He joined the Moorpark city staff in 2019 as Planning Manager. He previously worked in planning for the

City of Oxnard. Douglas earned a BA from Loyola Marymount University and an MPA from California State University, Northridge. *Bob Murray & Associates* was retained by the City of Los Angeles to help the city's executive recruitment efforts to find a new Chief of Police to replace Chief **Michael Moore**, who retired in January. Interim Chief of Police **Dominic H. Choi** is in command in the meantime. *Bob Murray & Associates* helped the city



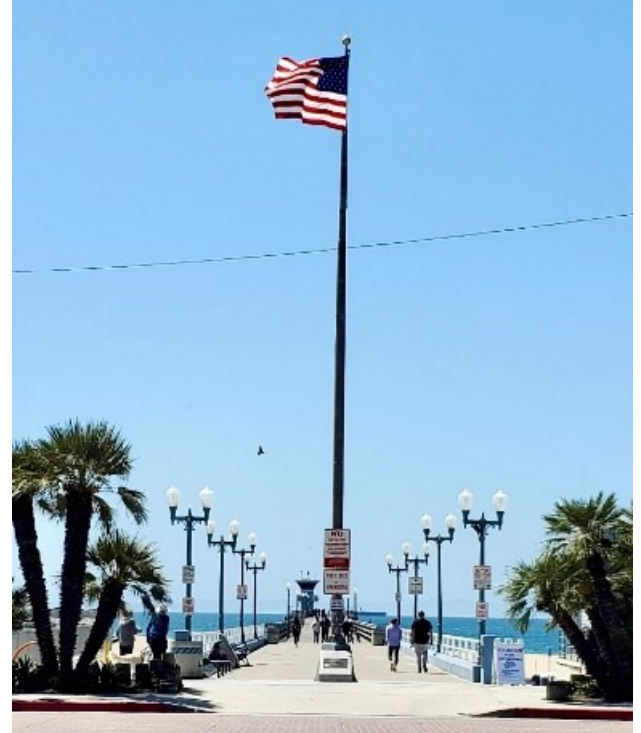
find former Chief **William J. Bratton** more than two decades ago. **Patti Garibay**, Lancaster Assistant Director of Community Development, joined the Lancaster city staff in November 2005 as a Recreation Coordinator. She became a Recreation

Supervisor in 2008; Management Analyst II in 2013, Energy Manager in 2015. She started her current post in May 2023. Patti earned a BA in communications from San Diego State University, and an MPA from California State University, Northridge.



**SHORTS:** \*Rialto City Manager **David Carmany** resigned only 3 months into a 5-years employment agreement signed January 23, 2024. \*Former Brea City Managers **Wayne Wedin** and **Frank Benest** are past Presidents of the City Managers' Department of the League of California Cities. \***Katie Bruner** has served as the Administrative Services Director for the Town of

Moraga since February 2024. \***Sam Olivito** and **Sharon Olivito** were recently spotted having dinner at J's Deli in Palm Desert. \*California City Chief of Police **Jesse Hightower** has been dismissed as part of a budget spending cutting strategy that has previously seen the dismissal of the Fire Chief and City Clerk. \***Kristine Guerrero**, who earned a BA from **UCLA** and an MPA from **USC**, has worked as a Public Affairs Manager and Legislative Director for the League of California Cities since May 2005. \*ICMA Credentialed Manager **Dr. Carlos A. Urrutia**, who retired as City Manager for the City of Rocklin in December 2010, previously worked for the cities of Rolling Hills, Hawaiian Gardens, Sunnyvale, and Soledad. \*Veteran retired City Manager **Richard D. Rowe** served as city manager for the cities of La Palma (1981-1986), Chino (1986-1996), Needles (2003-2008), and Barstow (2009-2011); and he served as Interim City Manager for Needles (2000-2002), Barstow (2008), and Canyon Lake (2012-2013). \***James Lindsay** was the Planning & Neighborhood Services Director for the City of



Seal Beach Pier

Milpitas before joining the Saratoga city staff in October 2011 as Community Development Director before his appointment as Saratoga City Manager in July 2014. \*Elected Arcadia City Clerk **Gene Glasco** retired this month. \*Sausalito City Manager **Chris Zapata** was named to All-Conference teams in football, basketball and baseball among his high school athletic accomplishments. \*Former Santa Fe Springs and Rolling Hills city manager **Ray Cruz** is a Deputy Los Angeles County Supervisor for Constituent Engagement for Supervisor **Holly J. Mitchell**. \*Monterey Park city manager **Inez Alvarez** worked for the City of Norwalk for nearly 12 years leaving there in February 2018 when she was a Recreation Superintendent. \*After retiring as the city manager for Temple City in 1990, **Karl Koski** served on the City of Laguna Beach Personnel Board starting in 2017. \*Former **Tripepi Smith & Associates** Business Analyst, **Shannon O'Hare** is currently the Assistant City Manager for the City of Larkspur. \*Former Santa Paula City Manager (2002-2009), **Wally Bobkiewicz** is the City Administrator for the City of Issaquah, Washington. \***George Lee** is the new City of Long City Manager. \***Ryder White** is the Interim Fire Chief for California City succeeding Chief **Jeremy Kosick**, who was dismissed after working more than 20 years for the city. \*Son of the late legendary Antelope Valley journalist **Vern Lawson**, **Vern Lawson**, a **UCLA** alumnus, retired in 2018 as the Lancaster Economic Development Director and former City Manager for the City of Lancaster and Walnut. \***Jason Caudle** became the Lancaster City Manager in December 2018, and he served as the city manager for Tehachapi from 1998 to November 2007.\*\*\*