



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

July 2024

Volume No. 17 | Issue No. 10

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Former City Manager and Big Bear Lake Mayor and Council Member **David Caretto** and his wife **Cindy Caretto** at Acrisure Arena rooting on the Coachella Valley Firebirds ice hockey team for the American Hockey League's 2024 Calder Cup Finals. Dave is an alumnus of the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) where he earned degrees in geography. Dave and Cindy have relocated to Palm Desert in the Coachella Valley.

Public Managers in California "C" Cities with Names Camarillo to Carpinteria

Cities included in the July 2024 issue of the City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown are cities listed alphabetically, including: [Camarillo](#), [Campbell](#), [Capitola](#), [Carlsbad](#), [Carmel By The Sea](#), and [Carpinteria](#). The unincorporated communities of Cambria, Cantua Creek and Carmichael fall within this alphabetical group too. The six cities here include city managers **Greg Ramirez**, a longtime [Agoura Hills](#) city manager; **Brian Loventhal**; **Jamie Goldstein**; **Scott Chadwick**, who "...likes doing cool stuff and getting things done;" **Chip Rerig**, City Administrator; and **Mike Ramirez**, who worked parks and recreation in [Oxnard](#) and [Moorpark](#). These cities are found in the counties of Ventura, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Diego, Monterey and Santa Barbara.

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Recently **Gonzalo Vazquez** stopped by to visit with **Lisa Yanez Hughes**; a “homey” from his Bellflower city staff days. Gonzo said, Lisa and I worked together at the City of Bellflower back in the 1980’s. We have been friends ever since and it is always great to see each other and share some good laughs. Not everyone can say that they still keep in touch with people they worked with so long ago. However, working at Bellflower back then was like a “family” which sadly doesn’t often exist today in the workforce. We had some fun moments that we can still laugh about today. As I said before, we worked as a team to get things done. A lot I attribute to my “jefe” Jack Simpson. He taught us the right way. Keep on smiling “Loca” and keep enjoying retirement and the grandkids, and **Aaron Hughes** too. – **Gonzalo Vazquez**. **NOTE: Gonzalo Vazquez** retired as the Water Quality Manager for Cypress and **Lisa Hughes** retired after a long career with the Anaheim city manager’s office.

Public Managers in California “C” Cities with Names Camarillo to Carpinteria



Camarillo is named for ranch owners **Juan** and **Adolfo Camarillo** who worked a Mexican land grant starting in 1837. The original town site of Camarillo was started around 1910. The town’s growth was slow until World War II. In the late 1940s buildings sprouted along the main downtown street. The area was planted in orange, lemon and walnut groves. A State Mental hospital was built nearby and personnel working in the military facilities brought needed commerce to town. The Ventura Freeway was completed in the mid-1950s. The city was incorporated in October 1964. The 2020 population is set at 70,741. **Greg Ramirez** is the City Manager and **Carmen Nichols** is Assistant City Manager. The Director of Administrative Services and Chief Innovation Officer is **Mitchell Cameron**. **Rachel Richman** is the City Attorney, and the City Clerk is **Kristy Buxkemper**. **Mark Uribe** is the Director of Finance. **Dave Klotzie** is the Public Works Director.



Debbie Smith, Executive Director

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- Mike Sedell**, Retired Simi Valley City Manager
- Larry F. Pennell**, Retired City Manager, Wasco
- Kevin O'Rourke**, KOLGS/**PARS**; Retired City Manager
- Glenn Southard**, Retired CM, Indio & Claremont
- Joe Tanner**, Retired Vallejo City Manager
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- Vern Lawson**, Retired, Lancaster
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- Mark Scott**, Retired City Manager
- Doug La Belle**, Retired City Manager, Chino Hills
- Don Penman**, Retired City Manager, Arcadia
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Posse Roster:

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- Rita Geldert**, Retired City Manager, Vista
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- Denise Ovrom**, Former CM retired from **HdL Companies**
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- Kevin Duggan**, Retired City Manager, Mountain View
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- Jim Lewis**, City Manager, City of Atascadero
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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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Public Managers in California “C” Cities with Names Camarillo to Carpinteria



Greg Ramirez was hired to serve as the Camarillo City Manager in July 2020. He replaced retiring City Manager **Dave Norman** and Interim City Manager **Tully Clifford**. Greg served as the city manager for the City of Agoura Hills from November 2003 until June 2020. Greg began his public service career as a member of the Southern California staff of the League of California Cities and on the city staff of Santa Fe Springs. Greg earned a BS in economics from California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo and an MA in economics from California State University, East Bay.



Michelle Glueckert D'Anna, a former Camarillo Senior Planner, served as the Camarillo Community Relations Officer (2019-2022) is the Assistant to the City Manager from February 2022. She previously worked for Ventura County and the cities of San Francisco, San Luis Obispo and Agoura Hills. Michelle graduated from Adolfo Camarillo High School and Ventura College. She earned a BS from California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo and MPA from San Francisco State University.



Carmen Nichols, is the Camarillo Assistant City Manager from March 2020. Carmen began her public service as a Human Resources Administrator for Port Hueneme (1995-2007). She served as the

Assistant to the City Manager and Deputy City Manager in the City of Port Hueneme. She joined the Goleta city staff as Deputy City Manager in 2017, and she became the Camarillo Director of Administrative Services in December 2018. Carmen earned a BA in organizational leadership and a BS in organizational development from the University of La Verne. She earned an MPA and MA from California Lutheran University.



Former city managers **Greg Korduner** with **Mike Egan** of **Tripepi Smith** at the June 27 “Proof of Life” lunch, and Greg with the **Hank Greenberg** statue in Detroit.



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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.

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Public Managers in California “C” Cities with Names Camarillo to Carpinteria



Campbell is home to the South San Francisco Bay officers of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The city was founded by **Benjamin Campbell**, who came to California in 1846 with his father. He bought property in the southern section of the Santa Clara Valley and farmed Hay and other grains on it. This is the area that became historical downtown Campbell. With local railway service, the area became the center for shipping fruit harvested from farming in the surrounding area. Campbell was incorporated in March 1952. **Brian Loventhal** is the city manager and **Andrea Sanders** is the City Clerk. **Natasha Bissell** is the Director of Recreation & Community Services and **Will Fuentes** is the Finance Director. **Rob Eastwood** is the Community Development Director, and the Police Chief is **Gary Berg**.



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Public Managers in California “C” Cities with Names Camarillo to Carpinteria



Campbell City Manager **Brian Loventhal** began his public service career as an Assistant Planner for the Port San Luis Harbor District in January 1992. He was hired as an Associate Planner for the City of Monte Sereno in May 1993. He was

promoted to City Planner in June 1995, and Brian became the Monte Sereno City Manager in June 1999. Brian was selected to serve as the City of Campbell City Manager in December 2016. Brian earned a BS in city, urban, community and regional planning from California Polytechnic State University. He also earned a Doctor of Law from Stanta Clara University School of Law. In 2022, Brian received a 30 Year ICMA Service Award.



Natasha Bissell joined the Campbell city staff in October 2000 as a Recreation Coordinator beginning her more than 20-year career with the city. She worked as a Recreation Supervisor (2005-2012) and Recreation Services

Manager (2012-2020). Natasha was appointed Acting Director of Recreation & Community Services in February 2020. She was hired as Director in July 2021. Natasha earned a BA in business economics from the University of California, Santa Barbara and an MBA from Notre Dame de Namur University.

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City Manager **Wally Bobkiewicz** at Wrigley Field in Chicago with son Wally. Wally was recently awarded the prestigious National Public Service Award by the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) National. Wally is the City Administrator in Issaquah, Washington. He began

his career as an Intern with the League of California Cities in May 1987. Wally worked for the City of Long Beach from July 1989, starting as a Management Assistant, until March 1998, when he was hired to serve as the Assistant City Manager in Novato. In September 2002, Wally became the City Manager for the City of Santa Paula. He left California in August 2009 to be the City Manager of Evanston, Illinois. He left there in 2019 to take the Issaquah position. He received a 30-year ICMA Service Award in 2019.



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Public Managers in California “C” Cities with Names Camarillo to Carpinteria



Capitola, recognized for its colorful beach-side buildings and the iconic wharf pier, grew out of the old Soquel Landing that dated to the 1850s. **Frederick A. Hihn**, who owned property near the pier, developed a seaside resort in

1869. He is largely credited as the one who dubbed the community “Capitola,” though no one explanation is agreed on. **Alfred Hitchcock** based his film, *The Birds*, on a real life 1961 attack on the town by hundreds of birds affected by a toxin produced by red algae. **Jamie Goldstein** is the Capitol city manager and **Choé Woodmansee** is the Assistant to the City Manager.



Capitola City Manager **Jamie Goldstein** began his public service career as a firefighter with the U.S. Forest Service in 1992 during the summer while he attended the University of California, Davis. He worked as a Senior Planner for the County of Santa Barbara starting in 2001 and he was promoted to Deputy Director of Redevelopment in 2005. Jamie joined the Capitola city staff in 2008 as Community Development Director. In June 2010, Jaime was named Capitola City Manager. He earned a BS in atmospheric science from the University of California, Davis and an MS in environmental science and management from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Assistant to the City Manager **Choé Woodmansee** for the City of Capitola, came to the city staff in 2017 as a Records Coordinator. In May 2020 she was named Interim City Clerk and in October 2020 she became the Capitola City Clerk. Choé was named Assistant to the City Manager in August 2022. She earned an AA from Cabrillo College, a BA from San Francisco State University, and a Master of Philosophy from Trinity College, Dublin. Choé is a Notary Public.

Public Managers in California “C” Cities with Names Camarillo to Carpinteria



Carlsbad was a village at the mouth of the San Marcos Creek when Europeans first visited the area in 1769. When Mexico ruled the land, in 1842, Carlsbad was part of a Mexican land grant. The little town was called Frazier’s Station in the 1880s after **John Frazier**, a former sailor, dug a well in the area that was used at the local train station. Carlsbad was incorporated in July 1952. The 2020 population is 114,746. **Scott Chadwick** is the City Manager, **Geoff Patnoe** is the Assistant City Manager and **Sherry Freisinger** is the City Clerk. **Jeff Murphy** is the Community Development Director. **Zach Korach** is the Finance Director and **Vicki Quiram** is the Utility Director. **Kyle Lancaster** is the Parks & Recreation Director, and **Paz Gomez** is the Deputy City Manager responsible for the Public Works Department. **Tom Frank** is the Transportation Director and City Engineer. **Christie Calderwood** is the Carlsbad Chief of Police and **Michael Calderwood** is the Fire Chief. Former League of California Cities’ Regional Public Affairs Manager **Teresa Acosta** is a member of the Carlsbad City Council.



Here is the Trackdown Hydration Queen Presley. It is already a “hot” summer! Presley reminds everyone to remember to hydrate! It is always important, but it is especially important in extremely hot weather.



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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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Former City Manager **Bret Plumlee** is an important member of the **HdL Companies** Team. Bret was city manager in Los Alamitos and La Puente. He received a BA in economics from the University of California, Irvine, and a BS in accounting from California State University, Long Beach.

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A view of the San Clemente Pier from T-Street.

Public Managers in California "C" Cities with Names Camarillo to Carpinteria



Carlsbad City Manager **Scott Chadwick** served in Intelligence for the U.S. Army from 1989 to 1997. In September 1997 he became a Business Representative for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) negotiating on behalf of the union with management on wages and other conditions of employment. In July 2004, Scott took a Labor Relations Officer position with the City of San Diego. He took the Director of Labor Relations post in February 2006 and the Human Resources Director position in January 2009. Scott became the Assistant Chief Operating in 2013 and he was appointed Chief Operating Officer for the City of San Diego in October 2013. After nearly 14 years working for San Diego, Scott was hired as the Carlsbad Chief Operations Office in February 2018. In August 2018, Scott became the City of Carlsbad city manager. Scott earned a BA from Purdue University.

Kyle Lancaster is the Carlsbad Parks & Recreation Director. He has worked for the city for nearly 20-years, joining the parks department in September 2004. Kyle was appointed Parks & Recreation Director for Carlsbad in May 2019. He earned a BA in business management and sociology from California State University, Northridge.

Public Managers in California “C” Cities with Names Camarillo to Carpinteria



Carmel-by-the-Sea is a Monterey County city on California’s central coast. The first Europeans to visit the area were sailors in 1542. In 1602 Spanish explorers claimed the Carmel Valley for Spain. The

Spanish began colonizing the area in 1770 during the time Father **Junipero Serra** established mission sites in California. A post office for Carmel opened in 1889, closed in 1890 and re-opened in 1893. The city was incorporated in October 1916. The 2020 population is 3,220. The area is noted for having a number of “high end” dinner houses. Actor and film director **Clint Eastwood** served as a member of the Carmel-by-the-Sea city council, including a term as Mayor in 1986. **Chip Rerig** is the City Administrator of the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea. **Anna Aubuchon** is a Finance Specialist for the city, and **Nova Romero** is the City Clerk. **Sharon Friedrichsen** is the Public Services Director.



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

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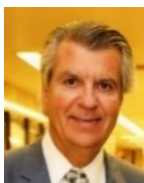
Jason Gonsalves' daughter Taylor Gonsalves has joined the firm as Communications Director. Taylor is the fourth generation Gonsalves "to work in and around the State Capitol and will be working for the firm while completing her Juris Doctorate at McGeorge School of Law. "She previously served as a legislative and communications aide at the Civil Justice Association of California. Prior to that, Taylor was the Communications Director for Assembly Member Freddie Rodriguez.



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

Anthony D. Gonsalves and two of his sons, Jason A. Gonsalves and Paul A. Gonsalves, are expert local government lobbyists. Founded in 1975 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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"Somebody once asked me if I ever went up to the plate trying to hit a home run. I said, 'Sure, every time.'"
--Mickey Mantle

Public Managers in California "C" Cities with Names Camarillo to Carpinteria

Chip Rerig is the City Administrator of the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea. Chip has served as City Administrator since March 2016. He previously worked for the City of Monterey for 22 years, starting in August 2002. Chip earned a BA and an MA in city and regional planning from California State University, San Luis Obispo.

Maxine Gullo, served as the Assistant City Administrator in Carmel-by-the-Sea until she left to be the Human Resources Director for the City of Mountain View. Maxine joined the Carmel city staff in March 2019. She previously worked for the City of Fremont.

Sharon Friedrichsen was the Budget Director for the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea from July 2015 until January 2022 when she became the Budget Manager for the City of Berkeley. Sharon worked as a Performance Auditor for the City & County of San Francisco from 2000 to 2004 when she joined the Santa Barbara County staff. She left the county in 2012 as the Director of Housing and Community Development to be the Public Services Director for the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea in January 2013. Sharon earned a BA from The University of Akron and an MPA from Syracuse University, Maxwell School.



One of Southern California's premier family beaches with a nice outside break.

Public Managers in California “C” Cities with Names Camarillo to Carpinteria



Carpinteria is a coastal city in Santa Barbara County located almost entirely between the Santa Ynez Mountains and the Pacific Ocean. In 1769 a Spanish expedition explored the area. The

city was incorporated in September 1965. The 2020 population is 13,264. **Michael Ramirez** is the City Manager and **Ryan Kintz** is the Assistant City Manager. **Brian Barrett** is the City Clerk. **Licette Maldonado** is the Administrative Services Director, and the Finance Manager is **Gilbert Punsalan**.



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Michael Colantuono is Managing Shareholder, and currently is City Attorney for the City of Grass Valley.

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

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Carpinteria City Manager **Michael Ramirez** worked as a Recreation Coordinator and After-School Program Manager for the Hueneme Elementary School District in 2002. He joined the Oxnard city staff in 2006 as Development Director and

became the Recreation and Human Services Coordinator in 2014. From 2016 to 2021, Michael was a Recreation Coordinator for the City of Moorpark. He was hired as Carpinteria Assistant City Manager starting in December 2021. Michael became City Manager in December 2023. He earned a BA in sociology from California State University, Northridge and an MPP from California Lutheran University.



“Never permit the pressure to exceed the pleasure.”

--Joe Maddon



Providing Financing Solutions and Comprehensive Financial Strategies to California Public Agencies.

NHA Advisors, LLC provides strategic, objective and financially sound advice to public agencies throughout California. Consistently ranked as one of the most active municipal advisors*, the firm distinguishes itself from the competition by delivering broad advisory and consulting services to meet the challenging and complex needs of a wide range of public agency clients. As a fiduciary, NHA Advisors develops comprehensive options and strategies that addresses needs from maintaining and/or enhancing service levels, capital project needs, manage and contain costs and risks such as rising pension costs and promote fiscal sustainability through prudent policies.

The firm’s leadership averages 25+ years of public finance experience. NHA Advisors, LLC has worked with more than 175 public agencies on hundreds of diverse projects, ranging from small \$500,000 privately placed loans to larger \$500 million bond financings.

Mission Statement

NHA Advisors was founded to make the process of public finance accessible and understandable for governmental entities as well as to help them achieve the lowest possible cost of financing. NHA Advisors strives to provide underserved agencies with access to financing to better meet the needs of their communities. Using our broad base of knowledge, we bring qualified parties together to create an effective collaboration that meets both public policy and private demands.



NHA Clients Served

NHA Advisors’ Leadership



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Other NHA Advisor professionals include:

- Mark Northcross**
- Eric Scriven**
- Mike Meyer**
- Rob Schmidt**
- Leslie Bloom**



Picking Up the Pieces: **Marissa Trejo** has been hired as the new City Manager for the City of Lemoore. She was selected from more than 40 candidates. Marissa has served as the Coalinga city manager since November 2015. She was the Human Resources Director in Coalinga starting in October 2008, and

she joined the Coalinga city staff as a Human Resources Analyst in 2006. Marissa earned an MS in human resources from Chapman University. **Jonathan Berrego**, Oceanside City Manager, joined city representatives demonstrating their grateful appreciation to the many regional partners that aided in extinguishing the Oceanside Pier fire on April 25, 2024. The city hosted a special recognition lunch at the Pier Amphitheater. The collective actions of all responding agencies resulted in no injuries, and 93% of the pier being saved from destruction. Mountain View Public Works Director **Dawn Cameron** announced her retirement after a 30-year-career in the public sector. Dawn began her career as an intern with Santa Clara County and worked in the county Transportation Agency. She has worked for Mountain View for 7 years. She is scheduled to retire in September. **Kimbra McCarthy** is the Mountain View city manager. South Pasadena City Manager **Arminé Chaparyan**, who received the ICMA Credentialed Manager designation in January, and previously worked as Assistant City Manager and Community Development Director for the City of San Gabriel, has been dismissed. The city is considering appointing an Interim City Manager. **Luis Frausto** is the acting South Pasadena Deputy City Manager. Seaside City Manager **Jaime Fontes** was cut loose "without cause" at a June city council meeting. Jaime was fired after less than 2 years in the position. Jaime was hired as city manager in 2022 following City Manager **Craig Malin**'s resignation to return to the Midwest. Craig previously served as City Administrator for Davenport, Iowa for 14 years. Jaime has been on administrative leave since April. He previously served as the City Manager for the Cities of Greenfield and East Palo Alto. Seaside Chief of Police Nick Borges has served as Acting City Manager. Former Vallejo City Manager **Greg Nyhoff** has been hired as the Interim City Manager in the City of Mount Pleasant, Texas. Mount Pleasant city manager **Ed Thatcher** stepped down from the position in May after serving in the role for more than four years. Greg was the Vallejo city manager from January 2018 to July 2021. Prior to Vallejo, Greg worked as the city manager for the City of Oxnard and in Modesto.

"It is better to have it and not need it than to need it and not have it." –**Jack Simpson**, adapted from **George Ellis** and **Franz Kafka**

Letters and Notes from Readers:

We all know the necessity of each community in our state taking its share of the burden to solve the housing problem. I am proud of Laguna Beach stepping up to the plate, in this regard.

Soon, the city will add 100 affordable housing units to the city's housing stock with ocean views, easy walking distance to beaches, fine dining, world class shopping and entertainment.

I suspect this affordable opportunity is well on the way to becoming permanent residences to solve a transitory problem. In other words, these homes will merely become the first phase of an unlimited number of government subsidized housing.

--**Jim Barisic**

In a past issue, nice piece on Auburn. It is one of our favorite places.

Seems like Anthony Gonsalves never ages. Maybe a little grayer but the same smile.

I don't recognize the names any longer, but it is still fun to read. Thanks for including me with the distribution.

--**Michael Sakamoto**

Lindsay has hired Exeter Director of Public Works, **Daymon Qualls**, as its new city manager. City Manager **Joe M. Tanner** was relieved of his duties and placed on administrative leave in December 2023. He was appointed Lindsay city manager in March 2020. Recreation Director **Armando da Silva** was appointed Interim City Manager during the recruitment process for a new city manager. Daymon has served as Public Works Director in Exeter since 2005. He has also served as an Exeter reserve police officer. He is also a licensed minister and a well-known gospel musician. Daymon earned a BA in business administration from California Coast University. Palm Spring City Manager **Scott C. Stiles**, former Garden Grove city manager, began his public service career in May 1988 when he joined the city staff in the City of Cincinnati, Ohio. Scott worked in various city of Cincinnati positions, including Interim City Manager in December 2013 through September 2014. He was the Assistant City Manager from February 2005 to July 2015. Scott became the City Manager in Garden Grove starting in August 2015 and he started his Palm Springs city manager tenure in March 2023 when he replaced City Manager **Justin Clifton**. Scott earned a BA from South Dakota State University and a Master's from the University of Cincinnati. He received a 40-year ICMA Service Award in 2023. Scott is an ICMA credentialed manager.



Still More Pieces Picked Up: Ryan Smoot followed the retired **Jeffrey L. Stewart** as the City Manager for the City of Bellflower. Ryan previously served as the highly regarded City Manager for the City of Lomita. He earned a BA from California State University, Long Beach. Retired Jeff succeeded City Manager

Michael Egan, who left Bellflower to serve as the Norwalk City Manager. Mike, who took the Bellflower reigns from **Linda Lowry**, who went on to serve as the City Manager in Diamond Bar and Pomona, served as the Artesia Interim City Manager following his retirement from Norwalk. Ojai City Manager **Ben Harvey** worked with Mike and Linda in Bellflower. **Adel Hagekhalil**, General Manager for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California was placed on leave while the Agency investigates allegations of harassment filed against him by **Katano Kasaine**, the MWD's Chief Financial Officer. It is reported that Katano said the General Manager harassed, demeaned and sidelined her while creating a hostile work environment for her. Assistant General Manager **Deven Upadhyay** is temporarily the Interim General Manager. **Rev. Geoge T. Lambert** began his public service career as a Personnel Analyst for Fresno County in September 1971 before he was appointed to an Administrative Assistant position for the City of Santa Maria in September 1974. George was hired to serve as the City Manager in Corcoran starting in March 1980. In May 1990, George left Corcoran to be the Norco City Manager (May 1990-November 1995). He left Norco in 1995 to serve as the City Manager of Patterson until he retired in September 2003. George earned a BA and a Master's from San Jose State University. In 2001 he received a 30-year ICMA Service Award.



SHORTS: ***Tony Olmos**, Pasadena Director of Public Works, who previously worked as the Public Works Director in Brea, is leaving the city of Pasadena in July. ***Adelanto**, where **Jessie Flores** is the City Manager, and the Town of Yucca Valley, where **Curtis Yakimow** is the Town Manager, are new member agencies in the California Contract Cities Association

(CCCA). ***Former** Commerce (2017-2023) and Huntington Park (2015-2017) city manager **Edgar Cisneros** served as a Senior Deputy to Los Angeles County Supervisor **Gloria Molina** (2007-2014) and as a member of the of the Board of Education for the Montebello Unified School District (2013-2020). ***California State University, Long Beach** alumnus, **Jonathan E. Borrego**, Oceanside city manager, worked as the Planning Services Manager for the City of Anaheim for nearly 30-years starting in May 1988. ***Kwame Reed** has served as the Acting City Manager for the City of Antioch since the resignation of City Manager **Cornelius Johnson** in July 2023. ***Retired**



Following Governor **Gavin Newson**'s call for aggressive climate measures, the California Air Resources Board proposed policies and actions to reduce dependence on fossil fuels. These wells are found near Lost Hills.

City of Cypress Water Quality Manager **Gonzalo Vazquez**, a professional DJ, participated at the sold out Angels 5K and Fun Run at Angels' Stadium in Anaheim on Saturday, June 29. ***Peter Castro**, Indian Wells Assistant City Manager, who served as President of the Municipal Management Association of Southern California (MMASC) in 2013-2014, began his working career with The Walt Disney Company in June 1999. ***Carl Alameda**, who worked for the City of La Cañada Flintridge for nearly 20 years, and who has served as the Assistant City Manager in Ojai since June 2023, was the President of the Municipal Management Association of Southern California (MMASC) in 2007-2008. ***Fairfield** Assistant City Manager and CIO **Savita Chaudhary** has since September 2023 served as a member of the ICMA Digital Strategies Committee. ***Retired** City Manager **Ed Everett** authored a piece published in the May 2024 issue of PM Magazine entitled "Let's Think Differently About Our Stupid Rules." ***Pat Martel**, retired veteran City Manager and past-President of ICMA, serves as the ICMA West Coast Regional Director and as the Ex-Officio ICMA Liaison to California Women Leading Government. ***Peter Castro**, Indian Wells Assistant City Manager, served as the President of Municipal Management Association of Southern California (MMASC) in 2013-2014. ***Juan J. Serrano**, born in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico, a Recreation and Community Services Supervisor for the City of Hawaiian Gardens, earned an AA in psychology from Cerritos Community College and studied child psychology at California State University, Long Beach. ***Anna Perez Welter**, the Municipal Stormwater Program Assistant for the Town of Windsor, previously served as the Administrative Technician for Environmental Compliance for the City of Calistoga. ***Avid** San Francisco Giants baseball fan **Tim Kerr** served as City Manager in Turlock (2005-2009), Ceres (1998-2005) and Livingston (1990-1998). ***Carlene Saxton**, Assistant City Manager for the City of Ventura, is the President of the Executive Board for California Women Leading Government.

“Proof of Life”



These Nineteen veteran public managers gathered on Thursday, June 27, 2024, for a “Proof of Life” lunch at the North Woods Inn Restaurant in [La Mirada](#).

Greg Korduner, retired [Huntington Park](#) City Manager. Greg is one of the Founders of the “Proof of Life” lunch program. He served as City Manager in [El Monte](#) and [South El Monte](#). He worked for [Norwalk](#) and [Artesia](#). He served as Interim City Manager in [Los Alamitos](#). Greg is an avid golfer and sports fan. He is an Angels and Dodgers MLB baseball fan.

Ron Molendyk, former [Lake Elsinore](#) City Manager and Interim City Manager in [Perris](#), who took delivery of a 2023 Corvette C8 Stingray on September 25, 2022. Ron is a past President of the Orange County Corvette Club.

Jim DeStefano, retired [Diamond Bar](#) City Manager. Jim was Community Development Director for [Chino Hills](#) when he was appointed [Diamond Bar](#) City Manager in July 2006. He retired in 2017.

Tom Robinson, retired City of [La Mirada](#) City Manager (2008-2013). Tom worked for [Commerce](#) and [Cerritos](#), and since retirement he served as Interim City Manager in [La Habra Heights](#). He is a Management Consultant with his firm TR Management Services, Inc., currently serving as Interim Assistant City Manager for [La Habra Heights](#).

Glenn Southard, a [San Clemente](#) resident, is a well-respected veteran manager. He retired as City Manager for [Indio](#) and [Claremont](#). Former ACM in [San Juan Capistrano](#) and worked in [West Covina](#) and [Riverside](#). Glenn is one of the Founders of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF).

Don Penman is a respected retired [Arcadia](#) City Manager. He was also chief executive for [Baldwin Park](#) and [San Fernando](#) and previously worked for [Simi Valley](#). Since retirement, Don has completed many interim assignments, the most recent as Interim City Manager in [Ventura](#).

Mike Sedell is a retired [Simi Valley](#) City Manager. Mike is well known for working closely with State government in [Sacramento](#) on local government issues. He is a Board member for the Ventura County Employees' Retirement Association (VCERA), and the Museum of Ventura County.

John Bramble, a Downey resident, retired as the [Merced](#) City Manager. John started his career in Salem, Oregon in 1969. He served as City Manager in Commerce City (1981-1984) and Pueblo, Colorado (1984-1987), City Administrator in [Bell](#) (1988-1993), Brighton, Colorado (1996-2008) before [Merced](#) (2008-2016). John is an avid golfer and occasionally hits a course with **Greg Korduner**. John received a 40-year ICMA Service Award in 2012.

Jack A. Simpson, worked for [Paramount](#), [Artesia](#), [Cerritos](#), [Hawaiian Gardens](#) and [Bellflower](#). Also, served as an Interim department head in [La Puente](#). Former member of the CCMF Board of Trustees. Worked with **Willdan**. Received a 30 Year ICMA Service Award in 1997. Cal-ICMA Board, 2003-2009.

Lloyd de Llamas is a co-founder of **HdL Companies** with the late **Robert Hinderliter**. Lloyd received a 30-year ICMA Service Award in 2015. He served as city manager in [Woodlake](#) (1968-1971), [Lawndale](#) (1971-1976) and [Monterey Park](#) (1976-1987).

Robert R. “Bud” Ovrom began his public service career in [Simi Valley](#) in 1970. He served as city manager in [Monrovia](#) (1977-1983), [Downey](#) (1983-1985) and [Burbank](#) (1985-2003). He worked various positions for [Los Angeles](#) starting in 2003, including Deputy Mayor (2005-2010). Bud received a 35-year ICMA Service Award in 2013. He and his wife Denise are affiliated with the University of Southern California.

Denise E. Ovrom was the Assistant City Manager in Beverly Hills (1995-2001). She retired as a Principle with **HdL Companies**. She served as the city manager for the City of [Temple City](#) (1990-1994) and Assistant City Manager in [Brea](#) (1984-1990). Denise began her career as an Administrative Assistant in [Simi Valley](#) in 1972.

Bill Crowe worked for [Paramount](#) (1975-1980) before joining the staff of L.A. County Supervisor **Pete Schabarum** (1980-1990). He served as the [Rosemead](#) City Manager (2002-2006) before serving until retiring as [El Segundo](#) Assistant City Manager.

Mike Egan retired as the [Norwalk](#) city manager (2011-2017) after serving as [Bellflower](#) city manager. Since retiring, Mike served as [Artesia](#) Interim City Manager in 2022. He is a Director with **Tripepi Smith** consultants.

Chris J. Jeffers became the [Glendora](#) city manager in 2007. He joined the [South Gate](#) city staff as city manager, first as Interim, and retired in December 2023. He took the [Monterey Park](#) city manager position in 1991 and served 16. Years. Chris earned a BA and MPA from Northern Arizona University.

Larry J. Kosmont started as an Intern in [Santa Monica](#) in 1975. He is the 1980 *John H. Nail Memorial Award* recipient while serving as the Assistant City Manager in [Seal Beach](#). Larry was the [Bell Gardens](#) City Manager from 1980-1983 and went on to work in [Burbank](#) before founding the **Kosmont Companies** in 1986.

Wayne Wedin served as the [Brea](#) City Manager 1968-1983. He started his career as a [Pasadena](#) Intern before joining the [Santa Fe Springs](#) city staff. He was Assistant City Manager when he left in August 1968 to be the [Brea](#) City Manager. Currently the President of Wedin Enterprises in Brea. He is a past-President of the League City Manager Department (1975-1976).

Julio Fuentes served as [San Clara](#) and [Alhambra](#) City Manager. Beginning a career in real estate after more than 30-years in city government (Office: 424-297-1076).

Glenn Southard, Jorge Rifa and Tom Robinson at the North Woods Inn Restaurant in La Mirada

The next POL lunch will be on **Thursday, September 19, 2024.**

