City Manager Newsletter By
TRACKDOWN MANAGEMENT
"Providing thread to help stitch together the fabric of the City Management Community"

August 2026
Volume No. 20 | Issue No. 13

Click the logos throughout the newsletter to open links…

Summer 2026 is upon us, and people are planning and taking memory making vacations. Family vacations offer profound benefits that strengthen bonds, improve health, and foster child development.

California City Executives in Cities of Palos Verdes Estates to Pasadena

Please find an August 2026 issue of the City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown attached to this distribution letter. This issue presents information regarding the executive leadership in the cities of Palos Verdes Estates, Paradise, Paramount, Parlier, and Pasadena.

City Managers in this issue include Palos Verdes Estates city manager **Kerry Kallman. Jennifer MacArthy** of the city of Paradise, **John Moreno** is the City Manager in Paramount, **Aaron Palmer** is the City Manager in Parlier, and **Matthew Hawkesworth** is the current Acting City Manager for the city of Pasadena.

Leadership is a practice requiring continuous learning, empathy, and active listening rather than just rigid execution or technical metrics.
—**Simon Sinek**, world-renowned leadership expert.

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Jack's Cell | 562/896-5424; Susan's Cell | 310/418-1035
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Nine-year-old Presley gets chummy with a friendly dolphin during a shore encounter on a family cruise.

m.
Mitchell Public Affairs & Advocacy

Marc A. Mitchell, Principal
www.mitchellpaa.com

Marc & his family are "Flag waving" American patriots honoring all those who have worn our country's uniform.

"I'll continue to fly the flag every day. All gave some; some gave all. Lest we forget." – **Marc Mitchell**

Mitchell Public Affairs & Advocacy Marc A. Mitchell, Principal
Honorably serving clients in both the public and private sector; achieving solutions at the regional and local level in the LA Basin. Marc's focus has been on infrastructure, transportation, energy, ports, and health care. Marc brings nearly three decades of government relations and political experience with public affairs and advocacy focus.

EKA

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Los Angeles, California 90017

Kellie Hawkin is the Managing Partner. Former Managing Partner, **Matt Knabe** is now Partner Emeritus. Inquiries about the **EKA** firm should be directed to Kellie as 213-741-1500, ext. 545, or at

khawkins@ekapr.com

California City Executives in Cities of Palos Verdes Estates to Pasadena

Palos Verdes Estates, home to composer **Burt Bacharach** and future Hall of Fame relieve pitcher **Kenley Jansen**, is a coastal city in Los Angeles County situated on the Palos Verdes Peninsula. It was established as a planned community in 1923. The designers of Palos Verdes Estates, **Frederick Law Olmsted Jr.** and **Charles Cheney**, used deed restrictions as a method to control subdivision development. The Malaga Cove Plaza building, and the Palos Verdes Public Library were designed by Pasadena architect **Myron Hunt**. The city incorporated in December 1939. The 2020 population is 13,347. The city manager is **Kerry Kallman** and the Deputy City Manager is **George Gabriel**. The Chief of Police is **Luke Hellinga**; Public Works Director is **Oscar Antillon**; Community Development Director is **Sheryl Brady**; and the City Clerk is **Tameka Cook**. The City Attorney is **Trevor L. Rusin**.

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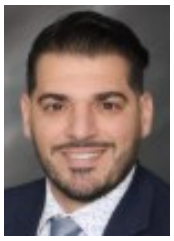
California City Executives in Cities of Palos Verdes Estates to Pasadena

Kerry Kallman is the Palos Verdes Estates city manager. Kerry began his manager assignment in Palos Verdes Estates in March 2024, after serving as the Hidden Hills city manager from September 2016 through November 2023. Kerry began his public service career with the city of Westlake Village. He earned a BA and an MPPA from California Lutheran University. Buellton City Manager Scott Wolfe says that Kerry's strengths lie in his solution-oriented approach to viewing problems from a variety of perspectives.



Palos Verdes Estates Deputy City Manager **George Gabriel** joined the city staff in January 2025, after working more than 8 years for the city of Manhattan Beach. George began his public service career as an Intern for an Orange County Supervisor starting in June 2012. After serving three and a half years with the city of Malibu, he moved on the Manhattan Beach, where he reached the position of Assistant to the Cit Manager. He is a Downey High School graduate who earned a BA from the University of California, San Diego and an MPP from Pepperdine University.

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EKA prides itself on providing a unique and strategic perspective on a wide variety of issues. **EKA** provides lobbying, government affairs, public relations, political campaigns, and crisis management services for a wide variety of clientele. **EKA** also provides professional litigation communication and expert witness services led by a team of strategists, lawyers, journalists, and media relations specialists.

Together, **EKA** has more than 100-years of combined experience and a multitude of relationships within the City & County of Los Angeles, and the 88 cities within Los Angeles County.

To contact **EKA,** please call 213) 741-1500 or email **Kellie Hawkins**, Partner.

Former Walnut city manager **Robert Dickey**, a renowned world traveler, tries out the pilot's seat in a Boeing airliner. Bob and Nadean are in the U.K.

Executive Level Posse Roster:

Wade McKinney, Retired Indian Wells City Manager
Mike Sedell, Retired Simi Valley City Manager
Larry F. Pennell, Retired City Manager, Wasco
Kevin O'Rourke, KOLGS; Retired City Manager
Glenn Southard, Retired CM, Indio & Claremont
Joe Tanner, Retired Vallejo City Manager
Guy Huffaker, Retired Porterville City Manager
Vern Lawson, Retired, City of Lancaster
Robert T. "Bob" Dickey, Retired South Gate DPW
Doug Dunlap, Retired City Manager, Pomona
Rita Geldert, Retired City Manager, Vista,
Dale Geldert, Retired CDF State Director
Lloyd de Llamas, Retired City Man./**HdL** Co-founder
John Shirey, Retired City Manager, Sacramento
John Russo, Retired City Manager; SynchroniCITY
Lee McDougal, Retired City Manager, Montclair
Mark Scott, Interim City Manager
Doug La Belle, Retired City Manager, Chino Hills
Don Penman, Retired City Manager, Arcadia
Sam Olivito, Retired CCCA Executive Director
Donald Duckworth, Retired City Manager
Richard Rowe, Retired City Manager

Posse Roster:

Gregory Korduner, Retired City Manager, Huntington Park
Rod B. Butler, Jurupa Valley, City Manager
Rita Geldert, Retired City Manager, Vista
Dale Geldert, Retired CDF Director, State of CA
Dr. Carlos A. Urrutia, Retired City Manager, Rocklin
Ray Taylor, Retired City Manager, Westlake Village
Denise Ovrom, Former CM retired from **HdL Companies**
Robert "Bud" Ovrom, Retired City Manager
Cynthia Kurtz, Interim City Manager, Pasadena
Ron Molendyk, Retired City Manager, Lake Elsinore
Kevin Duggan, Retired City Manager, Mountain View
Gary Milliman, Retired City Manager, Brookings, Oregon
Jim Lewis, City Manager, City of Atascadero
Donald Jeffers, Retired City Manager, Huntington Park
Wayne Wedin, Retired City Manager, Brea
Karen Herrera, Retired Deputy City Manager, Duarte
David Jenkins, Retired City Manager, & CC So. Lake Tahoe
Laura Behjan, Retired Simi Valley, City Manager

Contributor Roster:

Robert & Karen Flores, Retired El Cajon, residents

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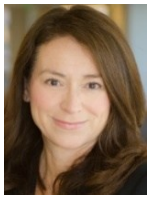

Roxanne Diaz *is a former member of the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF*

Call **RWG** at No. 213-626-8484

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California City Executives in Cities of Palos Verdes Estates to Pasadena

James B. "Jim" Hendrickson retired as the Palos Verdes Estates city manager in June 2007, after serving as city manager for 18 years. Jim was appointed San Clemente city manager in 1984 after working various position in Saratoga starting in 1972. After serving as Fresno Assistant City Manager, Jim was hired in Palos Verdes Estates in 1989. Jim was an ICMA Exchange Program participant in Ireland in 1996. Jim was born in 1944.

Other Palos Verdes Estates city managers through the years include **Judy Smith** (August 2011-February 2013); Interim City Manager **Dan Dreiling** in 2013; and **Anton "Tony" Dahlerbruch** (May 2013-April 2019). Tony served as President of the City Managers' Department of the League of California Cities from September 2013 to August 2014.

Other Palos Verdes Estates city managers were **Mark Velez**, who served as "Acting" city manager from April 2019 to June 2020, when **Laura Guglielmo** took the job. **Sharon Papa** was appointed Interim when Laura left in September 2021. **Mark Prestwich**, who retired as the Hemet city manager in May 2026, served as Palos Verdes Estates city manager from February 2022 until May 2023. **Elaine Jeng** served as the Palos Verdes Estates city manager from May 2023 to March 2024, when she was appointed Interim General Manager for the Central Basin Municipal Water District. She left that position in February 2026.

Former Fairfield city managers **Kevin O'Rourke**, and **Sean Quinn** and city manager **David Gassaway**. Volunteered for a back-to-school event.

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Michael Colantuono is Managing Shareholder, and currently is City Attorney for the City of Grass Valley. Michael is an elected member of the American Law Institute, and he is a leading expert in local.
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Two of the firm's attorneys were named California Lawyers of the Year (2020).
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California City Executives in Cities of Palos Verdes Estates to Pasadena

Paradise is located in Butte County in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. On November 8, 2018, a major wildfire, the "Camp Fire," destroyed much of the city and most of Butte Creek Canyon. 85 people died in the Camp Fire and 18,804 buildings were destroyed. The town population was reduced by more than 80% due to the devastating fire. The first post office for Paradise was established in 1877. The town was incorporated in November 1979. The 2020 population is set at 4,764. **Jennifer Macarthy** has served as Town Manager since May 2026 following Interim Town Manager **Mike O'Brien**. **Sheris Alvies** is the Administrative Assistant to the Town Manager.

Jennifer Macarthy has been the Paradise Town Manager since May 18, 2026. She has been the Interim Executive Director of the workforce initiative, the North Far North Regional consortium. From April 2021 until June 2025, Jennifer worked as the Deputy City Manager for the City of Chico. From June 2020 to April 2021, Jennnifer served as the Deputy Administrative Officer for Community & Economic Development for Butte County. She earned a BS in economics from Santa Clara University and has completed graduate studies at California State University, Chico.

Eric Reinbold served as Interim Town Manager from August 2025 to September 2025. **Jim Goodwin** (2023-2025), and **Kevin Phillips** (2020-2023) also worked in the Town Manager office.

Lauren Gill and **Charles "Chuck" Rough Jr.** (pronounced "Row") are both long time Town Managers for Paradise. Lauren served in the position from 2012 until her retirement in September 2020. Chuck was Town Manager from 1996 until his retirement in December 2012. He began his public service career as an Assistant in Norwalk before he worked as the Ukiah city manager prior to moving to Paradise in 1996.

California City Executives in Cities of Palos Verdes Estates to Pasadena

Paramount was originally identified in 1781 by Mexican settlers becoming part of two old Spanish Ranchos. After the Mexican American War, California was ceded to the United States. The unincorporated Paramount community is a merger of Hynes and Clearwater as ordered by the U. S. Postmaster General. It was 1948 when the dairy farm community became Paramount. The city was incorporated in January 1957. The 2020 population is 53,733. **John Moreno** is the Paramount veteran city manager. Form Rolling Hills Estates and Rolling Hills City Clerk **Heidi Luce,** is the Paramount City Clerk. **Grissel Chavez** is the Assistant City Manager, and the Public Works Director is **Adriana Figueroa**. **John King** is the Planning & Building Director, and **David Johnson** is the Director of Community Services.

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Alexander Smith
Chief Executive Officer

California Joint Powers Insurance Authority
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A great photo of the **Anthony and Evelyn Gonsalves** immediate family. Paul, twins Anthony and Jason, Anthony and Evelyn and youngest son Nick.

Joe A. 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, President of the firm, is a long time Member of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF) Board of Trustees.

Jason & Paul Gonsalves are recognized local. Government legislation experts.
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Owner and President of In-N-Out Burger, **Lynsi Snyder** recently moved her family from its California roots to the State of Tennessee.

California City Executives in Cities of Palos Verdes Estates to Pasadena

John Moreno has served as the Paramount city manager since October 2015. John began his public service career working as a management intern with Mendota, South Pasadena, Whittier, and Los Angeles between January 1991 to January 1993. Paramount hired John as a Management Analyst in January 1993, and he was assigned the position of Assistant Public Works Director in January 1995. He became the Assistant Paramount Public Safety Director in January 1998, and in January 2000, he was appointed Public Safety Director. John took the Assistant City Manager and Human Resources Director assignment in January 2005. John became the Paramount city manager in October 2015 on the heals of the retirement of City Manager **Linda Benedetti- Leal**, who became city manager in 2005. John earned a BA in history from the University of California, Los Angeles (**UCLA**), and an MPA from the University of Southern California (**USC**). John serves on the Gateway Cities Economic Development Working Group, and he was appointed by the Honorable **Anthony Rendon**, the Speaker of the California State Assembly, to be a member of the California Sex Offender Management Board.

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Gregory Korduner, retired Huntington Park city manager, who also served as city manager in El Monte, and South El Monte, and as Assistant City Manager in Artesia at a recent visit to Yankee Stadium in New York.

Linda Benedetti-Leal joined the Paramount city staff in 1983 and worked her way through various positions of increasing responsibility. Linda served as Assistant City Manager starting in the 1990s until she was selected to replace City Manager **Pat West** when he resigned for a position with the city of Long Beach in 2005. Linda retired in October 2015 after more than 32 years of service to Paramount. She earned a law degree from Yale University.

Debbie Smith, Executive Director

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California City Executives in Cities of Palos Verdes Estates to Pasadena

Patrick "Pat" West was the Paramount city manager from 1993 to 2005 when he left for a position with the city of Long Beach. Pat began his public service career as a Huntington Beach Lifeguard at the age of 16. He then worked as an Assistant Director of Recreational Instruction Programs for **UCLA**. In 1980 he joined the Paramount city staff as a Recreation Supervisor under then-Parks & Recreation Director, the late **Ellen Ward**. Pat rose to Director of Parks & Recreation, Community Development Director, and City Manager. After some 25-year with Paramount, Pat was appointed Long Beach Director of Community Development in August, 2005. Following the retirement of City Manager **Gerald R. Miller**, Pat was appointed Long Beach City Manager in 2007.

William "Bill" A. Holt was Paramount city manager from 1980 until 1994. He left after 14 years to become the Chief Executive Office for the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority (CJPIA). He retired in 2002. Bill passed away following a heart attack on June 13, 2015, at the age of 72.

Bill Crowe served as the Interim city manager prior to **Bill Holt**'s appointment in 1980. He went on to work 10 years as a Deputy Supervisor for to Los Angeles County Supervisor **Peter Schabarum.** Bill was later the city manager for the City of Rosemead and retired as the Assistant City Manager in El Segundo.

Following the Paramount city manager tenure of **Harry C. Bond** (1968-1978), **Jack A. Simpson** (1978-1980) was city manager. He went to work for Bellflower replacing **John Jameson**, who left Bellflower for a private sector position. Harry was city manager in Culver City and Lawndale prior to coming to Paramount. Harry passed away in October 2016.

Mayrant Dorsey "M. D." "Mac" McKeown, of Long Beach died in 2008 at the age of 85, served as Paramount city manager from 1961 to 1968. Mac was also the city manager in Norwalk and Artesia. He served as the first city manager for the city of Dairy Valley (1956-1961), that changed its name to Cerritos on January 10, 1967. Mac retired in 1984.

California City Executives in Cities of Palos Verdes Estates to Pasadena

Parlier is a city in Fresno County. In 1876, the Parlier family relocated from Springfield, Illinois to California. The family's general store, trading post and the local post office were the center of town. Originally wheat farms were established in the area, and they gave way to grapes, raisins, and fruit trees. Improved irrigation systems and the arrival of the railway helped Parlier become the hub among the surrounding communities. NBA Hall of Fame player **Vern Mikkelsen** was born in Parlier. The city was incorporated in November 1921. The Parlier 2020 population is 14,576. The current Parlier city manager is **Aaron Palmer** and the Assistant City Manager/Deputy City Clerk is **Bertha Escalera**. **Mayra Escobedo** is the Director of Finance, and **Michael Salvador** is the Interim Chief of Police. The Parlier Public Works Director is **David Del Bosque**.

Aaron Palmer was appointed Parlier city manager starting in June 2025. He previously served as the city manager for the cities of Live Oak (April 2019-March 2024), Canyon Lake (February 2016-March 2019) and Highland City, Utah (March 2013-June 2015). Aaron began his public service career as an Administrative Analyst for San Bernardino in October 1999. He also worked for the cities of San Carlos, Big Bear Lake, Patterson and as the Deputy City Manager in Adelanto prior to leaving for Highland City. He earned a BS from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona and an MA from the University of Phoenix.

Founded in 1986 by former City Manager **Larry J. Kosmont,** Chairman and CEO.
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Former city managers **Julio Fuentes, Mike Sedell** and **Larry Kosmont** at a "Proof of Life" lunch. After 30+ years with cities, Julio has a real estate business (Office: 424-297-1076). Mike is a retired Simi Valley City Manager. Larry is the 1980 John H. Nail Memorial Award recipient. He was Bell Gardens City Manager from 1980-1983 and founded the **Kosmont Companies** in 1986. Happy 40th Anniversary to the firm.

California City Executives in Cities of Palos Verdes Estates to Pasadena

Parlier has experienced a high rate of leadership turnover, with several individuals serving as city manager or interim city manager during the past decade. **David Cerda** served as interim city manager from April 2024 to June 2025. David, who was also the city's Chief of Police, stepped in as acting manager following a period of council infighting and dismissals.

Sonia Hall served as Parlier city manager from November 2020 to April 2024. Sonia was terminated by a 5-0 council vote. **Antonio Gastelum** was Parlier city manager from 2017 to November 2020. He retained the position while facing federal indictment charges stemming from outside business fraud. He was sentenced to two years in federal prison for a pension fraud scheme run through his private company.

Ron Manfredi, a well thought of professional public manager, served as the interim city manager briefly starting in **March 2017**. Ron helped the Parlier city council through a transition phase. **Israel Lara Jr.** was the Parlier city manager from circa 2014 to March 15, 2017. He served initially as interim city manager before filling the permanent role. He resigned in early 2017.

Never to be Forgotten

Those who attended the Southern California "Proof of Life" Program, who have been lost along the way. "Proof of Life" program participants who passed:

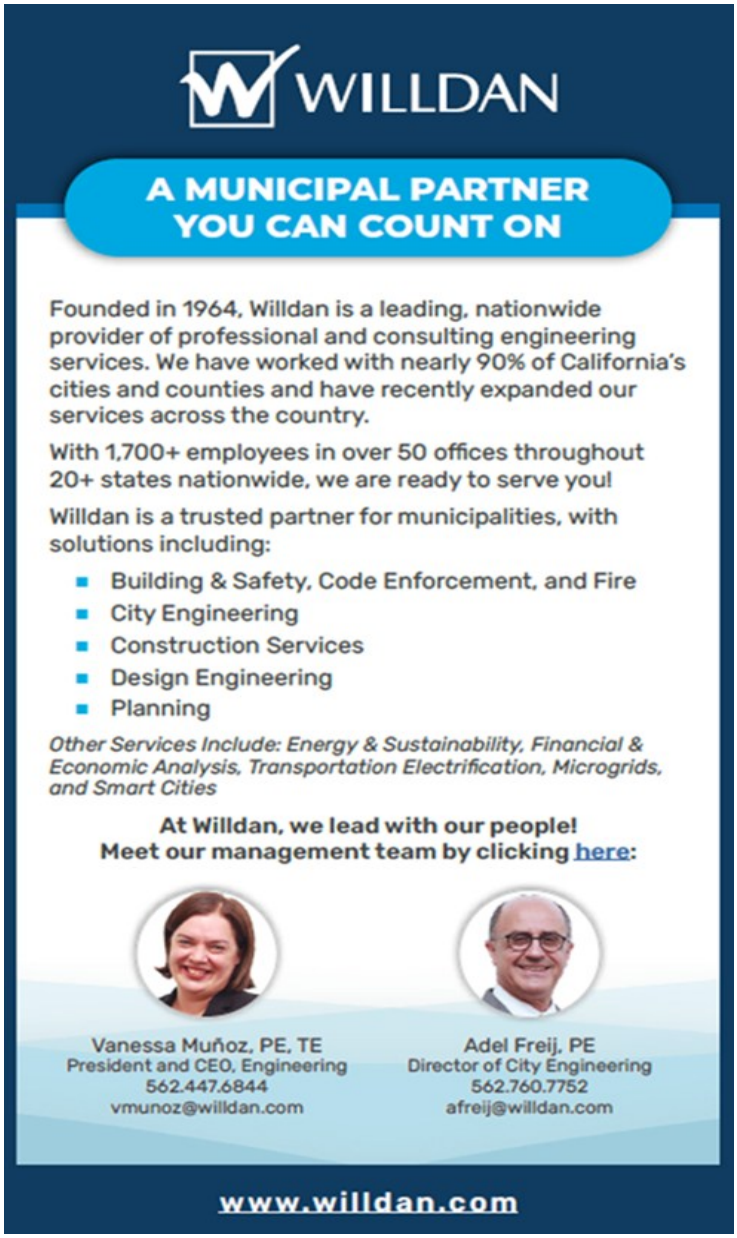
Darrell Essex
Bob Willliams
William "Bill" Holt
Lauren Wasserman
Ray Harris
Frank G. Tripepi
Howard Chambers
Mary Strenn
Keene Wilson
Joe Goeden
Ron Bates
Jim Purtee
Roy Pederson

The late **Howard Chambers** and **Frank G. Tripepi** flanking retired CCCA Executive Director **Sam Olivito**.

California City Executives in Cities of Palos Verdes Estates to Pasadena

Pasadena is considered the primary cultural center of the San Gabriel Valley. Pasadena means "valley" in the language of the Ojibwe, local native people. The region grew to bring people from across the country. Railroad service opened the area in 1887 and triggered increased real estate business. World War II was a boost to Pasadena with high-tech manufacturing and scientific companies making their homes there. The city was incorporated in June 1886, 140 years ago. The 2020 population is 138,699. **Matthew E. Hawkesworth** is the Pasadena Interim City Manager. Following the retirement of City Manager **Miguel Márquez**, Riverside City Manager **Mike Futrell** was selected to fill the position but backed out of the position before his official start date. **Brenda E. Harvey-Williams** and **Nick Rodriguez** are Assistant City Managers and **Phillip Leclair** is Acting Assistant City Manager. **Mark Jomsky** is the City Clerk, and **Phyllis Schnaider** is the Director of Finance. The Chief of Police is **Gene Harris**, and the Public Works Director is **Greg de Vinck**.

Since April 2026, **Matthew E. Hawkesworth** has served as the Interim City Manager for the City of Pasadena, following the retirement of City Manager **Miguel Márquez**. Matt came to Pasadena as Director of Finance in October 2015, after working for the city of Rosemead from 2007. He as Assistant City Manager when he left Rosemead. He previously worked for El Monte and the city of Claremont. Matt worked his way up in Pasadena to become the Assistant City Manager in July 2025. Matt earned a BA in social science from the University of La Verne. In his free time, Matt enjoys spending time cycling with his family, and leading a charity that refurbishes bicycles for low-income families.



Pasadena adopted the Council-Manager plan in 1921. City Manager for Pasadena are **C. Wellington Koiner** (1921-1925), **Benjamin F. DeLanty** (1925-1933), **C. Wellington Koiner** (1933-1945), **Harold M. Hines** (1945-1948), **Don C. McMillan** (1948-1962), **Elder Gunter** (1962-1966), **John Phillips** (1966-1973), **Don McIntyre** (1973-1990), **Philip Hawkey** (1990-1998), **Cynthia J. Kurtz** (1998-2008), **Michael Beck** (2008-2016), **Steve Mermell** (2016-2021, **Cynthia Kurtz** (interim 2021-2022), **Miguel Márquez** (2022-2026) and **Matt Hawkesworth**. **Don McIntyre** served as the President of the City Managers' Department of the League of California Cities in 1983-1984, and **Cynthia Kurtz**, the first female Pasadena city manager, was President in 2006-2007.

The HdL Companies are dedicated to helping cities, counties, redevelopment agencies and special districts maximize revenues through allocation audits, financial and economic analysis and through the provision of related software products.

The HdL Companies serves more than 335 local governments across the nation and North America.

HdL was founded in 1983 by **Robert Hinderliter**, a former Director of Finance and City Administrator in Commerce, California. Bob developed California's first computerized sales tax management program and worked to secure the legislation that allows independent verification of the State Board of Equalization's allocation of sales tax revenues to local governments. In 1987, **Lloyd de Llamas** purchased 50% of the corporate stock and the company became *Hinderliter, de Llamas and Associates* with a primary focus on sales tax analysis, allocation audits, and software.

In 1993, a separate corporation was organized by partners **Paula Cone**, **Martin Coren**, **Robert Hinderliter**, and **Lloyd de Llamas** to provide property tax related services, including allocation audits, trends analysis, tax increment verification, tax allocation bond fiscal services, and related software products.

In 1996, **HdL** Software LLC was established with participants **Nancy Hicks**, **Robert Hinderliter**, and **Lloyd de Llamas** to provide easy-to-use, integrated "counter tools" for the processing and tracking of revenue related functions, such as business licenses, building/planning permits, animal control licenses, and code enforcement violations.

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HdL's software solutions are designed, implemented, and supported by people who understand the unique challenges and needs of local government. More than a vendor, HdL works as a partner, providing expert analysis and guidance, effective software solutions, and unmatched quality of technical support.

Executive and Senior Leadership:
Andrew Nickerson, President and Chief Executive Officer He is a graduate of California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.

Barry Foster, Principal and Managing Director.

David McPherson, **Richard Fletcher**, **Jim Brashears**, **Matt Easton**, **Matt Hinderliter**, **Drew Rifkin**, **Tracy Roth** and **Bobby Young**.

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Some considerations and thoughts, just for edification and "remember whens": Oceanside got a $542 million federal plan to stop its beaches from disappearing. Since 1942 military harbors at Camp Pendleton have blocked sand from moving down the coast starving the Oceanside beaches. Some spots lose more than 6 feet of shoreline each year. *Siberian Huskies, renowned for their wolf-like good looks, trace development of their lineage to roughly 3,000 years ago by the native Chukchi people in Siberia. They developed into sled dogs with amazing stamina in freezing conditions. In 1925 Siberian Huskies gained fame during the 1925 lifesaving diphtheria serum run to Nome, Alaska. *Among the top 2026 female celebrities born and raised in the State of California include **Zendaya**, **Kim Kardashian**, **Jennifer Aniston** and **Angelina Jolie**. Jennifer was born in the Sherman Oaks community of Los Angeles. Her godfather is actor **Telly Savalas**. **Zendaya Maree Stoermer Coleman** was born and raised in Oakland. She attended the Oakland School for the Arts, and she graduated from Oak Park High School after moving to Los Angeles. **Kim Kardasian** was born October 21, 1980, in Los Angeles, and graduated from Marymount High School in Beverly Hills. Angelina was born **Angelina Jolie Voight** in Los Angeles in 1975. *Among those who attended Southern Section schools in CIF athletics who are MLB Hall of Fame inductees include **Jackie Robinson**, Muir Tech; **Ted Williams**, San Diego Hoover; **Walter Johnson**, Fullerton; **Tony Gwynn**, Long Beach Poly; **George Brett**, El Segundo; and **Duke Snider**, Compton. **Bob Bailey**, who is a Long Beach Wilson High School graduate, is not listed on the CIF Southern Section "100 Athletes for 100 Years" list because the selection committee capped the total baseball selections at exactly ***13 athletes***, prioritizing players who are inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame. **Bob Bailey** earned legendary high school athlete status as the 1961 CIF-SS Baseball Player of the Year, and he signed an historic $175,000 signing bonus with the Pittsburgh Pirates. The rest of the 13 players are **Arky Vaughan**, **Bob Lemon**, **Eddie Mathews**, **Gary Carter**, **Ralph Kiner**, **Rollie Fingers** and **Bert Blyleven**. *Rumors about the death of Canadian actress **Missy Peregrym**, who stars on the FBI television program, are false. The rumors stem from a mixture of fictional television program story lines and online clickbait hoaxes. **Missy Peregrym** continues to serve as the lead star and a producer for the FBI program and has no current plans to leave the show.

Retired Norwalk and Bellflower city manager **Mike Egan** and his wife Teresa. Mike works part-time with **Tripepi Smith**.

Picking Up the Pieces: Vallejo welcomes City Manager **Harry Black**, a former Stockton city manager who has been serving Vallejo as interim city manager since May. Harry has been the Vallejo interim city manager since May and is now the official city manager. The new city manager's employment agreement begins July 29 and expires July 28, 2031. Harry served as Stockton city manager from 2020 to 2025, and he was the Cincinnati, Ohio city manager from 2014 to 2018. He was the chief financial officer in Baltimore from 2012 to 2014. Retired Irvine city manager **Sean Joyce** has been re-hired by Irvine as an Acting City Manager for about one year, as the city recruits for a replacement for City Manager **Sean Crumbly** who retired effective August 14. **Sean Crumbly** is Irvine's seventh city manager since July 2025. Since retiring from Irvine in 2018, **Sean Joyce** has completed several interim city manager assignments, including service in Cypress, South Pasadena, Huntington Beach, San Clemente and Laguna Beach. He is a product of Irvine public schools, coming to the city with his family in 1971. He earned a BA and MPA from California State University, Fullerton. La Jolla's secession efforts to break away from the city of San Diego continues. It has exposed San Diego's burdensome bureaucracy of high-paid middle manager—program managers and program coordinators. Former San Diego City Manager **Jack McGrory** (March 1991-August 1997) is the chief negotiator for the Association for the *City of La Jolla*, is leading the attempt to secede for the San Diego municipal government. Redding City Manager **William Tarbox** died unexpectedly at the age of 56 on Sunday, July 19, 2026, after suffering a heart attack. He had only served as city manager for five months prior to his cardiac arrest. The city council selected William to be city manager in December 2025 and he assumed office in February 2026. He moved his family from the Bay Area to take the job. He previously served as the Public Works Director for the City of Concord. He is retired from U. S. military and intelligence service. **Michael Webb**, the Assistant City Manager and Director of Public Works, is the Interim City Manager for Redding. Riverside city leaders unanimously named Assistant City Manager **Edward Enriquez** the interim city manager on July 7, nearly a month after making him the acting city manager following City Manager **Mike Futrell**'s resignation. The city hopes to appoint an "experienced" interim city manager until a new permanent city manager is appointed and allow Interim manager Edward to return to his full-time duties as Assistant City Manager and Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer.

Malibu City Manager **Joe Irvin**, is a surfer. When he was hired by Malibu, Joe told the city that he learned to surf—and developed a deep love for the sport—while living in Ventura. Joe's wife, Kate, is an avid surfer as well.

More Pieces Picked Up: Starting July 1, 2026, **Elaine Forbes** began serving as the city manager for the City of Sausalito. Elaine previously worked as the San Francisco Port Director from 2016 through December 2025. Elaine earned an MS in urban planning from the University of California, Los Angeles (**UCLA**). She replaced City Manager **Chris Zapata**, a former Anaheim city manager who served as the Sausalito city manager from June 2021 until June 2026 when he took an Assistant County Executive position with Marin County. Elaine was on an approved leave of absence following a personal crisis on July 16, 2026. She was arrested on misdemeanor charges at the Sausalito Yacht Harbor after boarding two luxury yachts without permission. A family spokesperson has reported that Elaine suffered a mental breakdown due to a personal crisis. Calexico City Manager **Benjamin Martinez** will retire after completing one year of service with the city. He was appointed Calexico city manager in July 2025. It is reported that the city of Calexico has had 18 to 19 different city managers in the past twenty years. Ben previously served as city manager for National City, leaving the post on April 18, 2025. He was elevated to Interim City Manager for National City following the unexpected death of City Manager **Armando Vergara** in June 2023. The city dropped the "interim" in December 2023. Ben was raised in San Diego. Lompoc City Manager **Dean Albro** received a satisfactory review last month. Dean was appointed to the Lompoc city manager position in December 2021. The performance review appeared on the agenda following widespread use of illegal fireworks on July 4, and reports that the local fire fighter's union wants to reopen negotiations. Dean has lived in Lompoc for about 50 years and is a graduate of Lompoc High School. He joined the city staff as an accounting supervisor in 2012. He previously worked in accounting for the Federal Bureau of Prisons for 21 years. Auburn City Manager **Sean Rabé** is the new Assistant CEO for Placer County, and former Saratoga city manager **James Lindsay** is the Interim City Manager to serve during the recruitment for a replacement. Jim served as Saratoga city manager from July 2014 to July 2024. He most recently was interim city manager for the city of Lodi. He currently serves as a senior advisor for ICMA (International City/County Management Association) and Cal Cities. Jim is an ICMA credentialed manager. He earned a BA in environmental studies from San José State University. **Gustavo J. Romo** is the new city manager for the city of Coachella starting June 15, 2026. Gus more recently served as the Deputy City Manager and Interim City Manager for the City of Beaumont with the departure of City Manager **Elizabeth Gibbs**. Gus earned a BS form California State Polytechnic University, Pomona and an MBA from the University of Redlands.

City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown Management

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Pacific Grove City Manager **Mattew R. Mogensen** will leave his post next month to become the city manager for the city of Marina. He will officially leave Pacific Grove on August 21, 2026. Matt assumed the Pacific Grove city manager position in May 2024. He served as the Marina Assistant City Manager from 2018 to 2024. Matt previously worked for the cities of Fountain Valley, Brea and Montebello. Matt is an ICMA credentialed manager. Matt earned a BA in geography from California State University, Fullerton and an MPA from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. **Robert A. Rizzo** worked as an intern in October 1978 for the Alameda County Housing Authority, and he took an Administrative Intern position with San Leandro in April 1979. Bob joined the Rancho Cucamonga city staff as an Administrative Aide in September 1980. He left Rancho Cucamonga in May 1988 as Assistant City Manager to become the first City Manager for the city of Hesperia in July 1988 following the city's incorporation. Bob was hired by the City of Bell in May 1993 and served there nearly 18 years before corruption was discovered. In July 2010 Bob's base salary alone was $787,637. He resigned his position in July 2010 and in October 2013 he pleaded no contest to 69 felony corruption counts. On April 14, 2014, he was sentenced to 33 months in federal prison for conspiracy and federal tax evasion. On April 16, 2014, Bob was sentenced in state court to 12 years in prison for public corruption. He was also ordered to pay the city of Bell $8.8 million in restitution. He served a majority of his time at the Federal Correctional Institution in Lompoc. Carson, California City Manager **David C. Roberts Jr.** has been named by Gov Business Review as the 2026 National City Manager of the Year. David is recognized for his hands-on management style. His administrative philosophy focuses on working shoulder-to-shoulder with city staff and community members instead of a traditional, detached approach. Gov Business Review recognizes David's highly visible, hand-in-the-trenches operational leadership during civic challenges in addition to his plan to rebrand Carson as tech-forward, and a high-connectivity "Gig City".

Finishing a day of exploring tide pools at Shaw's Cove in Laguna Beach

Still More Pieces Picked Up: A nine-member Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) **Ian Choudri** are in charge of the *California High-Speed Rail Authority*. The California Public Utilities Code establishes the governing board. The Board Chair in **Steve Kawa**, appointed to the board by Governor **Gavin Newsom**. The Vice Chair is **Anthony Williams** and the rest of the Board members are **Ernest M. Camacho**, **Emily Cohen**, **Jason Elliott**, **Martha M. Escutia**, **Henry Perea**, **Lynn Schenk,** and **Jeffrey Worthe**. Chairman Kawa began his career as an Aide to former San Francisco Mayor **Willie L. Brown Jr.** in 1996. He was San Francisco Mayor **Gavin Newsom**'s Chief of Staff from 2004 to 2011. He heads his own firm *Steve Kawa Strategic Advising* in San Francisco from 2018 to the present. Steve earned a BA from Merrimack College and his Juris Doctorate from Suffolk University Law School. Chico City Manager **Mark Sorensen**, who previously served on the Chico City Council and as a City Planning Commissioner, retired after 4-years as city manager. Assistant City Manager **Erik Gustafson** was the Interim City Manager until the new city manager **Gillian Haen** starts. Mark served for 10-years as the City Administrator of the city of Biggs (2012-2022). He was the owner and general manager of a private communications firm in Chico from September 1990 to August 2012. Mark is a graduate of Chico High School. **Charles E. McNeely**, who served as the Seaside city manager from July 1983 until 1993, began his public service career as an Administrative Intern for the city of San Diego starting in June 1972. Following his San Diego internship, Charles was hired as a Management Assistant in Palo Alto, and he was elevated to Assistant to the City Manager in 1978. After serving 10 years as the Seaside city manager, he took the Assistant General Manager post for the East Bay Municipal Utility District from 1993-May 1996. Charles served as the Reno, Nevada city manager from May 1996 to May 2009, when he was hired to by the San Bernardino city manager, serving in that position until May 2012. He began working as a consultant and in 2023 he was hired as Interim City Manager for San Bernardino. Indian Wells is the 2026 recipient of the *John S. Todd Award* presented by the California Contract Cities Association. **Dr. Christopher Freeland**, Indian Wells city manager. Together with the cities of Rancho Mirage and Palm Desert, Indian Wells founded the Cove Communities Fire Commission in 1981 to coordinate regional fire protection and medical emergency services. The Cove Communities partnership offers residents of all three cities access to opportunities and facilities that would otherwise be unavailable to each city. Rancho Mirage and Palm Desert for many years to come. **Isaiah Hagerman** is the Rancho Mirage city manager, and the Palm Desert city manager is **Chris Escobedo**. The Fairfield Back-to-School event provided 242+ children with needed shoes, socks, haircuts and family groceries.

Summer boogie boarding at T-Street in San Clemente

SHORTS: *Retired city of Paramount city manager **Linda Benedetti-Leal** was awarded the 2013 El Gran Matador Award by the California Contract Cities Association. *Former Costa Mesa city manager (2011-2018), **Tom Hatch** is the new Interim City manager for the city of Riverside. *Stockton City Attorney **Marci Arredondo** resigned after less than five months on the job for another employment opportunity. ***Solon "Doc" Wisham Jr.** served as Sacramento assistant city manager from 1981 until 1991, and before that he worked his way up in the city's Parks and Recreation Department, starting in 1969. ***Mary Poole**, who has worked for the city of Citrus Heights since 1998, is the city's Operations Manager for the General Services Department. ***Emily Stadnicki** is the new Planning & Development Director for the city of Culver City. *Formerly with Placer County for more than 20-years, **Gretchen Johnson** accepted the position of Finance Director for the city of Auburn in March 2024. *Former Santa Fe Springs City Manager **Ray Cruz** is currently an Associate Director of Government & Community Relation at the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority and a Deputy at the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors. ***Ruth Duncan** is the Finance Director and Assistant City Administrator for the city of Oroville, and she serves as a Board Director for the South Feather Water & Power Agency, and she is the Special District Representative for the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) in Butte County. *CalPERS Board of Administration member **Yvonne Walker**, whose Board term runs through January 15, 2028, is a veteran of the United State Marine Corps. *Rest in Peace **Kendi** (2009-2026), an American Staffordshire Terrier, of the **Marc Mitchell** family of **the Mitchell Public Affairs & Advocacy** firm. *Pacific Grove Deputy City Manager **Joyce Halabi**, an alumnus of Stanford University, previously worked as the Pacific Grove Deputy Director of Public Works from December 2019 until May 2025. *Retired Emeryville city manager **Christine Daniel** (September 2018 and July 2022), previously worked for Berkeley, Fremont and as Assistant City Administrator for the City of Oakland. *Former Claremont city council member **Sam Pedroza**, is the Assistant City Manager and Public Affairs Manager for the City of Industry. ***Brandon Swanson** has served as Acting City Administrator for Carmel-by-the-Sea since December 2025 following the retirement of City Administrator **Chip Rerig**. *Oakland Mayor **Barbara Lee** announced that Interim Chief of Police **James Beere** is Oakland's new permanent Chief of Police.***