



Feb. 8-10, 2023 ♦ Carlsbad, CA

City Managers CONFERENCE

Welcome!



Speakers' Biographies

Erica Ahmann Smithies

Ms. Erica Ahmann Smithies received her Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Engineering from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo and is a professionally registered Civil Engineer. Smithies has over 25 years of experience on capital improvement projects in both the public and private sectors with a majority of that time spent working in the Northern Bay Area. She began her career in the field surveying in Orlando, Florida before advancing on to design and construction management. One of Smithies' career highlights is the 2020 York Creek Dam Removal Project while serving as the Public Works Director for the City of St. Helena. She is currently the Public Works Director for the City of American Canyon and is looking forward to fulfilling the City's many development and capital project goals in the years ahead. She qualified for the 1996 and 2000 Olympic Trials in discus and is a member of the Napa High Athletic Hall of Fame. Smithies, her husband and their two children live on her family's ranch in Napa raising cattle.

Frank Benest

Until August 2008, Dr. Frank Benest served as the City Manager of Palo Alto, California. Frank is a noted consultant and trainer on entrepreneurial government, civic engagement, leadership development and succession planning. Prior to his appointment in Palo Alto, Frank served as City Manager in Brea and Colton, California. He has a doctorate in management from Brigham Young University; a Masters in Public Administration from California State University, Long Beach; and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Yale University. Frank serves as the Senior Advisor to ICMA on Next Generation Initiatives and chairs the ICMA Coaching Program. Frank teaches at Stanford University and has been inducted into the National Academy of Public Administration.

René Bobadilla

Mr. Bobadilla began his career in the public sector in 1989 working as a Parks and Recreation Leader in the city he was born and raised in, El Monte. In 1998, Mr. Bobadilla worked for the Los Angeles County Public Works Department. In 2009, he served as the City of El Monte's Public Works Maintenance Superintendent and was promoted to Deputy City Manager for Community Development. Mr. Bobadilla served as the Interim City Manager until his appointment to City Manager in January 2010. Mr. Bobadilla also served as the City Manager of Huntington Park from September 2012 to June 2014; the City of Pico Rivera from 2014-2018; Assistant City Manager of the City of Commerce from 2018-2019; and was appointed City Manager of Montebello in July 2020. For over 25 years, Mr.

Bobadilla has been at the forefront of initiatives that create and support significant growth. He has a record of transforming problematic and challenging city operations in order to regain the respect of the residents served. Mr. Bobadilla has delivered bold new initiatives to strengthen core services provided to residents, project-managed new infrastructure initiatives, and instilled financial discipline that stabilized and improved municipal finances. He is recognized for his capacity to harness the enthusiasm and talents of his team to address critical issues of concern and identify appropriate resources available to achieve fiscal solvency while achieving management objectives within city administrative environments. Mr. Bobadilla's management style is founded on the premise of exceptional customer service, coupled with performance management and engaged leadership. Mr. Bobadilla holds a Bachelor's Degree from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, and received his Master's Degree in Public Administration from Villanova University. He also holds a professional engineering license.

He is a member of the International City/County Management Association and the American Society for Public Administrators. Mr. Bobadilla is an avid UCLA Bruins fan and enjoys playing golf. When not working for the residents of Montebello, Mr. Bobadilla enjoys spending time with his wife and two daughters.

Ron Bow

Ron is currently serving as the City Manager of the City of Monterey Park since August 2016. Prior to this position, he served as the Assistant City Manager/Director of Public Works since September 2013. Before joining the City of Monterey Park, he was the Director of Public Works for the City of Monrovia since 2008. Prior organization of employment included Otay Water District, City of La Verne, City of Alhambra, City of Monterey Park in 1986 where the entire career began in public service as the Water Manager. In July 2021, Ron was recognized for the Building Bridges Award by the 27th Congressional District for the outstanding contributions to the people of the district during the Covid-19 pandemic. A veteran of 24 years in the U.S. Air Force active and reserve duty. In 2017, Ron was recognized and honored by the 49th Assembly District as the 2017 Veteran of the Year. 37 years of municipal experience, strong work ethic, cooperative management temperament, and a passion for the betterment of the communities that he has served and currently Monterey Park.

Christine Brainerd

Christine is a seasoned, award-winning communications professional with nearly 20 years of experience in government communications, public relations, and journalism. As communications director, she manages the city's comprehensive communications program, including news media relations, public information, and community relations. Christine joined the City of Folsom in 2015. She previously served the City of Elk Grove for nearly nine years as the public affairs manager and public information officer. She also worked at two Sacramento-based public relations firms, where she managed national and statewide public relations and marketing campaigns. Christine's career started in journalism. She has written for a weekly newspaper and worked as an assignment editor at KTXL-TV FOX-40 News. A communications graduate from California State University at Sacramento, Christine earned the Accreditation in Public Relations (APR) credential from the Public Relations Society of America and the Universal Accreditation Board in 2012. She holds a master's degree in public administration from Golden Gate University. Christine is the past president and current education and development chair of the California Association of Public Information Officials (CAPIO), a statewide association representing more than 700 government communicators. She has received more than 60 national, statewide, and regional awards for communications and public relations projects through well-respected organizations, including CAPIO, the Public Relations Society of America, and the League of

California Cities. In 2016, she was honored with the 40 Under 40 Award by the Sacramento Business Journal, which recognizes young professionals for their accomplishments in their respective industries and for their contributions to the community at large.

Ryan Buras

Ryan Buras is the Deputy Director of Recovery, which includes directing disaster recovery operations and managing hazard mitigation and debris operations. Prior to this, Buras worked at the Federal Emergency Management Agency, where he served in several positions since 2005, including senior advisor in the Office of Recovery Public Assistance and acting executive officer of the Office of Response and Recovery.

Maurice Chaney

Maurice Chaney is a strategic communication professional with more than 22 years of combined experience in both the public and private sectors. He is a Public Information Officer for the City of Roseville's Environmental Utilities—a suite of community-owned utilities for a community of 145,000. Before his role at Roseville, he served nearly seven years as a Media and Communication Specialist for Sacramento. He worked on communications efforts on large economic development projects, such as the new sports arena and digital communications and media relations for several departments. He also served Sacramento County in a similar role. Maurice's career started at a private consulting firm, Jones and Stokes (now ICF International), where he worked on local and statewide environmental public participation projects. During his career, Maurice has honed his issues and perception management, media relations, branding, social media, and digital communication skills. Maurice is a graduate from the University of California at Davis with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication and a minor in Sociology.

Matthew Chidester

After serving the last five years as Assistant City Manager, Coastside native Matthew Chidester was recently appointed by the Half Moon Bay City Council as City Manager. In his time with the City, Matthew has overseen many high profile and challenging issues, including: commercial cannabis regulation and taxation; homelessness; expanding Parks and Recreation offerings; non-profit support and collaboration including the CSFA grant program; supporting local businesses and economic development; working with the Latinx and immigrant communities; leading COVID response and support services including testing and vaccinations; the Coastside Recovery Initiative; community events like Music in the Park, the Summer's End Music Festival, Make it Main Street, and most recently the first annual Veteran's Eve tribute; public art including the Pumpkin Festival mural in downtown; and the development and launch of the CARES mental health crisis response program. Prior to working with the City, Matthew spent 14 years at the County of San Mateo serving the community through projects including the Fair Oaks Health Center development, the new Half Moon Bay library, and Measure A/K community grant funding. Matthew has a passion for serving the community and is especially grateful to have been able to serve the Coastside and San Mateo County, where he grew up. He is especially interested in supporting the most vulnerable populations and improving the quality of life for everyone who lives on the Coast. He appreciates the unique collaborative culture in San Mateo County, where sharing of resources and knowledge is commonplace among the County and cities, as

well as the many non-profit and community-based organizations that provide support and services to the community. It's in this environment that Matthew utilizes his greatest strength, which is to connect and convene differing groups to find unique solutions to challenging problems. Matthew earned a master's in leadership and management from Western Governor's University, a bachelor's in business administration from Hawaii Pacific University, and attended the 2016 Local Governance Summer Institute at Stanford University. In his spare time, Matthew enjoys playing basketball, working in his garage, travelling, cooking, and camping in the redwoods with his wife and six children, as well as their two English labs.

Jorge Cisneros

Jorge Cisneros is the 36th chief of the Anaheim Police Department. Chief Cisneros leads Orange County's largest city police department and oversees nearly 700 employees, including more than 400 sworn personnel. He plays a leading role connecting the Anaheim Police Department to our diverse community by working with a variety of organizations and advisories on issues of public safety and quality of life in Anaheim. Cisneros assumed the chief's role in August 2018. He has more than 32 years of experience, including over a decade serving as a police chief. Before coming to the Anaheim Police Department, Cisneros served as chief of the University of California, Irvine Police Department from 2015 to 2018. From 2010 to 2015, Cisneros served as Chief of Police of the Huntington Park Police Department in the county of Los Angeles. He also served as Huntington Park's acting city manager from 2010 to 2011. Cisneros began his law enforcement career in 1991 as a detective and police officer with the Long Beach Police Department. In Long Beach, he was promoted to sergeant in 1998, lieutenant in 2003 and police commander in 2006. From 2006 to 2010, he served as the department's chief of staff and commander. He holds a master's in criminal justice from Chapman University in Orange and a bachelor's in architecture from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. In addition, he is graduate of the FBI National Academy (Class 220). Since 2015, Cisneros has served as a member of the Orange County Chiefs and Sheriffs Association and previously served as the President. He is also a past member and President of Los Angeles County Police Chiefs Association. He is currently a board member at Anaheim YMCA, Greater Anaheim Boys and Girls Club, Laura's House, You Run This Town Foundation OC, Higher Ground Foundation, and a member of the Anaheim Rotary and Kiwanis Club.

Matthew Cody

Matt Cody is a member of Best Best & Krieger LLP's Municipal Law and Real Estate practice groups, where he focuses his practice on economic development, real estate and affordable housing. Immediately prior to joining BB&K, Matt served as deputy county counsel for the County of Sonoma, where he negotiated real estate transactions and provided guidance for buying, selling, leasing and managing real estate assets. He has experience advising clients in affordable housing transactions involving federal, state and local funds, administration of HUD-sponsored programs, including Section 8 housing assistance, and state and local rent control regulations. Matt also has experience in election law and litigation. He has advised campaigns, public officials, public entities, and non-profits regarding voting rights, campaign finance, and the California Elections Code. He has also drafted ballot measures and advised public and private clients throughout the initiative and referendum process.

Chris Constantin

Chris Constantin currently serves as the City Manager for San Dimas, CA overseeing all City operations and participates in several regional bodies. Previously, he served as Assistant City Manager

and City Auditor for the City of Chico having also served as the Administrative Services Director overseeing Finance, Human Resources, IT, and Risk Management. Chris spent 22 years in local government also serving as the Assistant City Auditor for San Diego, CA and a Senior Auditor for San Jose. In those cities, Chris evaluated city operations to make government more efficient and effective and was responsible for internal fraud, waste and abuse investigations. In total, Chris found improvements worth over \$150 million and won six national awards during his time as a government auditor. He spent 20 years in education as an elected official over two colleges in the Silicon Valley and most recently as a regional accreditor of 135 colleges in California, Hawaii and the Pacific. He also currently serves as a sworn, volunteer police lieutenant with the City of Hayward, CA and is an active defensive tactics/use of force instructor for the department and served as an adjunct instructor for the National White-Collar Crime Center. Chris graduated from San Jose State University with a B.S in Industrial and Systems Engineering and from Syracuse University with a Master of Public Administration. Chris is one of a handful of Accredited California Economic Developers, a Certified Fraud Examiner, Certified Internal Auditor, and a Certified Economic Crime Forensic Examiner.

Marisa Creter

Marisa Creter joined the staff of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG) in 2007. She has served as Executive Director of the agency since 2018. As Executive Director, she oversees a wide variety of policy and program areas related to capital projects, transportation, water, homelessness, and environmental issues. In 2017, she successfully guided the integration of the Alameda Corridor-East (ACE) Project into the SGVCOG organization and expanded the SGVCOG's authority to allow for the planning, design, and construction of a variety of capital infrastructure projects. Additionally, she serves as Executive Director of the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust, an organization that was formed by the SGVCOG in 2020 to support the construction of affordable and homeless housing in the region. Ms. Creter attended Pomona College, where she completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in Politics and Psychology and has a graduate degree in Public Policy from the University of Southern California.

Anton "Tony" Dahlerbruch

Tony worked in local government for over 30 years before joining the Peckham & McKenney team. His experience spans most every city department in the Cities of Beverly Hills, California (ultimately as Deputy City Manager); Scottsdale and Phoenix, Arizona; and Rockville, Maryland, with ultimately serving a combined 12 years as City Manager in Rolling Hills and Palos Verdes Estates, California. With his direct and personal experience in the diverse aspects of city services along with passion for recruitment, Tony now serves as the managing partner of Peckham & McKenney Executive Search. Tony has represented the City Managers Department in CalCities as a two term Director on the Executive Board, President of City Managers Department, and member of numerous Policy Committees. He has also served as a Regional Vice President on the Executive Board of the International City/County Management Association. Tony holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of California at Santa Barbara and a Master of Public Administration from The American University in Washington, D.C.

Kevin Duggan

Kevin Duggan, ICMA-CM, is a senior advisor for ICMA; former director, ICMA West Coast Region; and former manager of Mountain View, California

Ted Egan

Dr. Ted Egan is the Chief Economist of the City and County of San Francisco, and directs the Office of Economic Analysis in the City Controller's Office. The office prepares independent economic analysis of major new city legislation. Since he joined in 2007, his office has published over 100 economic impact reports on policy issues like the minimum wage, affordable housing, business taxes, land use planning, sporting events, and short-term rentals. During this time at the City, he has served as an expert witness on the economics of same-sex marriage during the Prop 8 lawsuit. In 2013, he won a Good Government award from the Municipal Financial Advisory Committee for his work redesigning the City's business tax. He currently serves on the Data Users Advisory Committee of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Before joining the City, he spent ten years working for ICF International, managing economic development strategy projects across North America, Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East. He received his Ph.D. from UC Berkeley, and lectured in the Economics and City Planning departments at Berkeley from 1997 to 2018.

Briana Evans

Briana Evans works to build communities in which every member can thrive. She has worked as an Equity Design Strategist with Reflex Design Collective, a consulting firm that uses collaboration to co-design solutions that advance social equity. She also served as a Senior Community Health Planner in San Mateo County Health's Office of Diversity and Equity where her team co-designed culturally responsive behavioral health services with clients and families. Briana is also a facilitator for Stanford Business School's Women in Management and Interpersonal Dynamics programs, which support individuals to build interpersonal connections and make mindful choices about their impact as leaders. Briana completed undergraduate and graduate studies in Anthropology at Stanford University.

Deborah Fox

Deborah Fox is the Chair of Meyers Nave's statewide First Amendment and Trial & Litigation Practice Groups. She is one of California's foremost experts on First Amendment issues, particularly those affecting the public sector, and has a unique expertise with cases involving the convergence of First Amendment, land use, and zoning laws and regulations. Outside the courtroom, Deborah provides daily guidance to clients as they address a myriad of legal issues. Deborah's practice includes trial and appellate work in state and federal courts, as well as administrative hearings and other proceedings before regulatory agencies. She has handled a wide range of litigated matters, including those that involve First Amendment issues, land use, zoning, housing, general plans, coastal issues, CEQA, inverse condemnation, environmental claims, federal preemption, public records, elections and ballot initiatives, and civil rights claims for violations of substantive and procedural due process and equal protection. Her complex litigation experience includes multi-party and multi-district cases, civil litigations that are intertwined with pending criminal actions, and matters that require managing, researching, reviewing and interpreting extensive electronic information.

PJ Gagajena

PJ Gagajena serves as the Assistant City Manager for the City of Moorpark. His 20-year career in local government includes working for the cities of Los Angeles, New York, Indio, and Torrance. PJ holds a bachelor's degree in Political Science from UCLA and master's degrees in Public Policy and Urban Planning from Harvard University. PJ earned the distinction of becoming one of the first Accredited California Economic Developers from the California Association of Local Economic Development. He served as Chair of the Diversity Subcommittee of the City Managers Department for Cal Cities, and

served on Cal Cities' policy committees on Housing, Community and Economic Development and Environmental Quality. PJ is an active member of ICMA and serves on the board of the International Network of Asian Public Administrators. He was the recipient of the 2021 Stewardship Award from the Municipal Management Association of Southern California.

Jaqui Guzman

Jaqui manages several city-wide initiatives, oversees citywide communications, and is guiding the City's equity, access and inclusion organizational change management effort. She has over a decade of experience in local government serving in a range of roles. She holds a master's degree in public policy (MPP) from UCLA's Luskin School of Public Affairs, and a B.A from Occidental College. Jaqui grounds herself by being very active in her community and the profession. She serves on the board of Sunnyvale Community Services and AACI Health & Wellness. Jaqui also serves on the CalCities' City Manager Department Subcommittee on Diversity and is a past Chair.

Andy Hall

Since 2013, Andy has served as the City Manager in Imperial Beach after serving as the City Manager and Community Development Director in Cathedral City. Prior to coming to California in 2009, Andy was the Assistant City Manager in Draper, Utah, the Planning Manager of Henderson, Nevada, and the City Manager in Payson, Utah. After graduating from Arizona State, Andy began his career as a planner in the Park City area. He obtained his Masters degree in Public Administration from the University of Utah. Dedicated to innovative local government and staff development, Andy is eager to implement new ideas to address today's complex government challenges.

Jason Holley

Mr. Jason Holley became American Canyon's City Manager in October 2017, after serving four years as the City's Public Works Director/City Engineer. He began his career as a private engineering consultant and transitioned to the public sector in the mid-2000s with the City of Napa. There, he led several high-profile infrastructure projects related to flood control and transportation, and gained expertise in land development, emergency response and labor relations. In 2013, Holley joined American Canyon where he oversaw several key initiatives, including a new Capital Improvement Program and the Measure T Implementation Plan. He also implemented a "zero water footprint" policy and expanded the City's recycled water program reducing water demand citywide by 25%. Since becoming City Manager, Holley has led efforts to professionalize City operations, reorganized several departments and digitized its future through development of an award-winning "Virtual City Hall". Holley received a Bachelor of Science in BioResource and Agricultural Engineering from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. He is a California Registered Civil Engineer, an International Code Council Certified Building Official and a California Office of Emergency Services Disaster Services Worker. Holley lives in Napa with his wife, and their two children. He enjoys golfing, camping, skiing and, most of all, spending time with his family.

Ann Hollingshead

At the LAO, Ann covers the overall condition of the state budget, federal funding to the state, overall state debts and liabilities, and budget reserves. She received an MPP from the Goldman School of Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley and also holds a BA in Economics and International Affairs from George Washington University.

Greg Humora

Mr. Humora was appointed City Manager for the City of La Mesa in January 2020. Previously he served as the Assistant City Manager since 2016 and Director of Public Works/City Engineer since 2004. He began his employment with the City in 1999 as an engineering project manager working in the traffic, capital projects and land development areas. Greg oversees seven departments and 268 employees. Incorporated in 1912, La Mesa is a full service city with its own police and fire departments. Before joining the City of La Mesa, Greg worked as a project engineer at ADS Environmental Services in San Diego and he served as the city engineer for the City of North Adams, Massachusetts. He holds a bachelor of science in civil engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute (Worcester, MA) and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Massachusetts (Amherst, MA). He is a licensed professional civil engineer in Massachusetts and California and a licensed land surveyor in California. Greg lives in La Mesa with his wife and 2 children and enjoys working in his yard, snowboarding and surfing.

Daniel Jordan

Dr. Daniel Jordan is City Manager of the City of Duarte, California, a position he assumed in March 2020. Prior to joining Duarte, Dan's public sector experience included 15 years in senior financial leadership positions with three separate southern California cities. Before entering local government, he spent ten years as a consultant to local, state, and federal government agencies, during which he provided financial advice and analytical studies across multiple policy areas.

Aaron Laurel

Aaron Laurel has served as City Manager for the City of West Sacramento since 2018, also holding the dual role of CEO for the Port of West Sacramento. Aaron has over two decades of experience in local government, including 18 years with the City of West Sacramento. Prior to his current role, he served as West Sacramento's Director of Economic Development and Housing. He is also a former Chair of the Board of Directors for the California Association for Local Economic Development, where he has been active in developing and improving tax increment financing and other tools for local government in the post-Redevelopment environment. Aaron received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of California, Berkeley and a Master of Urban Planning from San Jose State University. He resides in West Sacramento with his wife and two sons.

Wendy Levy

Wendy Levy joined the City of Santa Barbara in December of 2018 and was appointed as the City's first Human Resources Director in July 2020. As the Human Resources Director, Ms. Levy oversees programs and such as Talent Acquisition and retention, Compensation and Classification, Labor Relations, Benefits, Employee Relations, Training, Policy and the myriad of programs and processes that touch every employee during the employment lifecycle. Ms. Levy is a seasoned Human Resources professional with over 25 years of public service, having worked for the City of Oxnard, other large organizations such as King and Pierce Counties in Washington state, and Eagle County in Colorado. She graduated Summa Cum Laude from Regis College with Bachelor's degrees in Business Administration and Psychology and holds numerous accreditations in the fields of Human Resources and Project Management. In her spare time, Ms. Levy is an Adjunct Faculty Member of Highline College, teaching on Human Resources topics, and is a certified Dance Coach.

Jim Lewis

Jim Lewis became City Manager of Pismo Beach on March 1, 2013. He is passionate about public service and is committed to building quality and sustainable organizations that serve the public to their best and most efficient ability. During his tenure in Pismo Beach, Jim has focused on building a staff culture built on pride, integrity and service, enhancing the quality of life for residents through enhanced programs and services, and revitalizing the downtown and neighborhood commercial areas. Prior to serving as City Manager of Pismo Beach, Jim served as the Assistant City Manager and President of the Office of Economic Development for the City of Atascadero. Prior to this role, Jim served as the Assistant to the City Manager for the City of Claremont. Jim serves on the Board of Directors of the League of California Cities and recently served as President of the League of California Cities City Manager's Department. He is a Trustee for the California City Management Foundation and served as President of the Municipal Management Association of Southern California (MMASC) in 2001. Jim is an ICMA credentialed manager (ICMA-CM). Jim graduated with honors and received a Bachelor of Science in Public Policy and Management from the University of Southern California and a Master of Public Administration at Syracuse University.

Pat Martel

Pat Martel was appointed ICMA West Coast Regional Director in July 2019 following thirty-eight years of distinguished service in California local government, where she held executive leadership positions with the cities of Inglewood, South San Francisco, Daly City, San Francisco and Hayward. Serving as an Assistant City Manager, General Manager of Public Utilities and City Manager, Ms. Martel was responsible for managing public services in communities ranging in size from 67,000 to 850,000 residents. Most recently, Pat served as City Manager of Daly City from 2005 until retiring in June, 2018. She previously served as Assistant City Manager of Daly City from 1995 to 2001 before moving to the City and County of San Francisco to serve as the General Manager of the Public Utilities Commission. Throughout her career, Ms. Martel was committed to delivering high quality public services efficiently and cost effectively, enhancing community engagement and civic leadership, supporting organizational development and excellence, working collaboratively with elected officials to enhance governance and leadership, providing staff leadership development, advancing women and diversity in local government through inclusive recruitment, selection, and professional development practices. As West Coast Regional Director for the International City/County Management Association, Pat is responsible for coordinating ICMA's presence in the West Coast Region which includes the states of Alaska, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington. Providing support to well over 1500 ICMA members in the region, Pat also supports the ICMA Executive Board Vice Presidents representing the west coast. Ms. Martel was elected a member of the ICMA Executive Board as West Coast Regional Vice President, 2010-2013. She was selected by the Executive Board to serve as the 102nd President of ICMA in 2015. Pat has also served the profession as a board director for the California City Management Foundation, the City Managers Department of the League of California Cities, Women Leading Government, the Local Government Hispanic Network, and the Institute for Local Government. Martel is the recipient of numerous awards and recognition for her contributions to local government, public service and the city management profession including: California City Management Foundation "City Manager of the Year" (2017), Elected a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration for sustained exemplary contributions to the improvement of Public Administration (2015), Women Leading Government Career Excellence Award (2013), San Francisco State University Award for Significant and Outstanding Public Service (2013). A graduate of the University of Southern California, Martel holds a B.S. degree in Public Affairs and Journalism, as well as a Master's degree in Public Administration.

Fran Mancia

Fran Mancia leverages his extensive regulatory and advocacy experience to oversee Avenu's legislative and government relations work at both the state and federal levels. His knowledge of California's local general fund tax laws allows him to assist jurisdictions to navigate through legislative issues and protect and maximize their tax revenue streams. Fran's advocacy efforts were instrumental in the effort to pass Proposition 1A which protects state and local tax revenues. In 2020, he led the charge to pass Senate Bill 1441 to enhance and protect local utility user tax revenues. Currently, Fran is a Trustee of the California City Management Foundation and Regent Emeritus of the University of California, as well as an appointed Senior Advisor to the Office of the President of the University of California. Fran has served as a two-term President of the League of California Cities' Partner Program and is the former Chairman and Co-founder of the California Contract Cities Associate Members Program and Past President of the Alumni Associations of the University of California.

Leyne Milstein

Ms. Milstein was appointed Assistant City Manager in November 2017. With 25 years of experience in government management, policy and finance at the state and local level Ms. Milstein is part of the City's Executive Management Team. As Assistant City Manager Ms. Milstein oversees the Finance, Human Resources and Information Technology Departments and the following citywide initiatives: Cannabis Policy and Enforcement, Diversity and Equity and Performance Management. Ms. Milstein first joined the City in 2005 as a Principal Policy Analyst also serving as the Manager of the Budget, Policy and Strategic Planning Division, and the Director of the Finance Department from 2008 through 2017, responsible for oversight of the financial management of the City. Prior to joining the City of Sacramento, Ms. Milstein worked for the State of California as Director of the Information Technology and Support Management Division for the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing and as an analyst at the California Department of Finance, serving as staff to the State Public Works Board. Ms. Milstein holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of California at Davis and a Master's degree in Public Administration from California State University East Bay. In addition, Ms. Milstein served as the President of the Fiscal Officers Department of the League of California Cities (League), was a member of the League of Board of Directors and served as a member of the Government Finance Officers Association Committee on Governmental Budgeting and Fiscal Policy.

Erin Morales

Erin Morales has nearly 20 years of experience in the public sector, specifically working within the water industry. In addition to currently serving as CAPIO's President, Erin has been a part of the Cucamonga Valley Water District (CVWD) since 2007 and is the Government and Public Affairs Supervisor. In this role, she oversees a team who is responsible for CVWD's legislative, public outreach, education, and water use efficiency programs.

Laura Nunn

Laura Nunn is Senior Manager with HCD's Housing Accountability Unit overseeing the Surplus Land Act (SLA) team. In this role, she manages HCD's enforcement duties related to the Surplus Land Act and ensuring local agency compliance with the SLA. Prior to joining HCD, Laura served as Chief of Policy and Education with the San Diego Housing Federation, a membership-based housing nonprofit focused on advocacy and education for the affordable housing sector.

Afshin Oskoui

Mr. Afshin Oskoui, P.E., PWLF was selected as the Interim City Manager for Belmont in June 2019 and then permanently appointed to the position in September 2019. Before that he was the City's Public Works Director since July 2011. Oskoui has over 37 years of diverse experience as a public administrator, civil engineer, and public works official. He also has a broad background in city administration, development reviews and negotiations, policy development, infrastructure financing, facility design, construction, and operations. Oskoui has served in positions with the City of San Diego's Water Utilities and Engineering & Capital Projects Departments and served as the City Engineer with the City of San Diego. As Belmont's City Manager, Oskoui leads the City's most active period in housing production, economic development, infrastructure, land use and private development investments. He is a registered Civil Engineer in the State of California and holds Bachelor and Master of Science Degrees in Civil Engineering from San Diego State University. Oskoui has been very active in various local and regional boards and commissions representing Belmont. He was the Chair of Rethinkwaste Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), City and County Association of Government's Congestion Management Program TAC and Stormwater Committees, Silicon Valley Clean Water JPA TAC, and Past President of the City/County Engineers Association. He is an active member of the American Public Works Association (APWA) at the chapter and national levels. He served as Silicon Valley Chapter President in 2016 and is the Chapter Delegate to the National Board of Directors and has been on the chapter's Executive Board for the past eleven years. At the national level he has served as the Chair of the Council of Chapter's Infrastructure Committee for the past two years and Advocacy Taskforce, in addition to serving on other committee assignments over the last 20 years. Oskoui has also been active with the American Society of Civil Engineers, Water Environment Association, and American Water Works Association, and is a member of International City Management Association (ICMA).

Frank Oviedo

FRANK OVIEDO has served as the City of Santa Clarita's Assistant City Manager since 2013 and currently oversees the City's day-to-day operations. This is his second stint with the City, previously serving the community from 1997 to 2002. In 2021, Frank was recognized with the John H. Nail Memorial Award from the League of California Cities. This distinguished award annually recognizes an outstanding municipal assistant who has contributed significantly to his or her City government and to the advancement of the community as a whole. During his tenure with the City of Santa Clarita, Frank has accomplished many different priority goals and objectives and has served in many roles within the organization. He has led the City in obtaining thousands of dollars in grant funding and plays an integral role in the City's budget process. Santa Clarita has a 100 percent track record for a balanced and on-time budget with an impressive 20 percent reserve fund. The City also maintains a AAA credit rating from Standard and Poor's. Frank also oversees important City operations such as Public Safety, Intergovernmental Relations, Human Resources and Public Information. Two of Frank's greatest accomplishments occurred during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Frank facilitated the opening of The CUBE – Ice and Entertainment Center and the TREK Bike Park of Santa Clarita. Both facilities came at a crucial time when our residents needed new outlets to get outside and get active, while social distancing and staying safe. Frank has a reputation for setting a vision for the future, exploring creative solutions to meet the needs of our community and prioritizing goals to plan for a successful future. Before returning to Santa Clarita, Frank worked as the Assistant to the City Manager for the City of Elk Grove, from 2002-2009. During his time, Frank had direct oversight of the Departments of Public Works, Planning, Finance and Human Resources, while also supporting the Police Department. He then became the City of Wildomar's first City Manager in 2009. He assisted the City Council in stabilizing the City's finances during the 2009 Great Recession and developed Wildomar's first

comprehensive economic development plan. Frank's educational background includes a Bachelor's degree from California State University, Fresno and a Master's degree in Public Administration from Arizona State University. He is a member of the International City/County Manager Association and the California City Management Foundation. He has two children and enjoys sea kayaking, mountain biking and international travel.

Karen Pinkos

Karen Pinkos is the City Manager for the City of El Cerrito, California. A native of Michigan, Karen has over 25 years of experience in professional local government management in both Michigan and California. She is passionate about local government and is dedicated to promoting professional, efficient, and ethical management in California, across the country, and around the world. Karen served as the 2019 President of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), having previously served as a Vice President of the ICMA Executive Board for the West Coast Region and as Past President of the Cal-ICMA Board, the state affiliate of ICMA. She currently serves as a member of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF) Board of Trustees and as President-Elect of the Cal Cities City Managers Department. She is an ICMA Credentialed Manager, an IPMA-HR Certified Professional, and a life member of the Municipal Management Association of Northern California (MMANC). Karen is a recipient of the 2007 MMANC Wes McClure Outstanding Assistant Award, the Municipal Management Association of Southern California (MMASC) 2021 President's Award, and the California Women Leading Government (WLG) 2022 Career Excellence Award. Karen holds a Master of Public Administration and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan, and is a graduate of the Senior Executives in State and Local Government Program at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and the University of California at Berkeley Executive Seminar program.

Laurel Prevetti

Laurel Prevetti is the Town Manager for the Town of Los Gatos and has been a local government professional for over 35 years. Her career in local government demonstrates a passion for public service particularly focused on meaningful community engagement, government transparency, sound decision-making, and innovative service delivery. She has also led many community-based planning efforts involving sustainability, environmental protection, housing, economic vitality and revitalization, and the development of vibrant, mixed use places. In Los Gatos, she leads the Town organization in the delivery of exceptional municipal services, engages with the community on challenging local issues, and supports the Town Council in its budgetary, land use, and other decisions. Prior to serving with the Town of Los Gatos, Laurel worked for over 25 years for the City of San Jose. Laurel also taught for 14 years as adjunct faculty at San Jose State University. She is actively involved in regional non-profits. For recreation, Laurel and her family enjoy many outdoor activities in beautiful natural settings around the world and especially in California. She obtained her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees from the University of California at Berkeley.

Michael Rogers

Mr. Rogers has over 31 years of public and private sector experience delivering municipal strategic priorities, including the completion of multi-million-dollar transit, road, and water infrastructure projects in the Dallas, Texas area. He served as the Deputy City Manager for the City of Glenn Heights, Texas and a policy board member for the National Association of City Transportation Officials. Michael previously served as Director of Transportation for both Dallas, Texas and Raleigh, North Carolina,

where he created their first Departments of Transportation. As Director of the Dallas Department of Transportation, Mr. Rogers developed Dallas's first Strategic Mobility Plan, "Connect Dallas," a roadmap that rethinks how all the thoroughfares – from freeways to roads to bike trails – influence transit, zoning, housing, and economic development. While in North Carolina, Michael was pivotal in major transportation investments, including "smart" enhancements to on and off-street parking infrastructure and construction, as well as operation of the GoRaleigh transit hub and Union Station. He has also served as the Director of Public Works for the City of Peoria, Illinois. Mr. Rogers holds a master's degree in Civil Engineering from Michigan State University and a bachelor's degree in Construction Engineering from Lawrence Technology University.

Nicolas Romo

Nick Romo currently serves as a legislative advocate for the League of California Cities. Prior, he served as a policy consultant to the California State Senate advancing environmental, education, and economic development law. He got his start interning for the previous two Mayors of Los Angeles, Eric Garcetti and Antonio Villaraigosa. He is a distinguished graduate of the Claremont Colleges with degrees in Sociology and Political Studies. Nick was born and raised in Northeast Los Angeles. From a family of immigrants, public school teachers, and veterans he aims to carry on their legacy of public service and education.

Jim Vanderpool

Jim Vanderpool is City Manager of Anaheim since September 2020. As city manager, Vanderpool is responsible for the daily operations of one of California's largest cities with a \$1.9 billion annual budget, nearly 360,000 residents, 20,000 businesses and 25 million yearly visitors. Vanderpool works directly with Anaheim's Mayor and City Council to implement their policy direction for the city and oversees 11 city departments. Vanderpool previously served as Buena Park city manager from 2012 to 2020 and was with Anaheim's neighboring city for 25 years. Before becoming Buena Park city manager, Vanderpool served as deputy city manager and assistant city manager for the city. He began his career in Buena Park with the city's Public Works Department. Vanderpool holds a bachelor's in public administration from Purdue University and a master's in business administration from the University of Phoenix. He grew up in Orange County and lives with his family in Orange.

David Wilson

David Wilson has served as the City of West Hollywood's City Manager since July 7, 2021. As City Manager, he is the Chief Administrative Officer of the City and has direct responsibility for the City's departments, divisions, and daily operations. David implements the vision, broad policy goals, and ongoing strategic programs of the City Council and ensures that City operations remain true to, and consistent with, the mission and Core Values of the City of West Hollywood. This is accomplished by providing leadership, executive direction, and oversight of all City operations and services; establishing performance management goals and standards for all City departments; ensuring that City government responds to the needs of the community in a timely and effective manner; and empowering City management and staff to work collaboratively and creatively in addressing the issues and concerns of West Hollywood's constituents. David has been with the City of West Hollywood for more than two decades. Prior to becoming City Manager, he served as the City of West Hollywood's Assistant City Manager, focusing on internal operations. He has also served as the City of West Hollywood's Director of Finance and Technology Services, Budget and Compensation Manager, a Senior Management Analyst in the City Manager's Department, and a Project Development Administrator in the

Redevelopment & Housing. David holds a bachelor's degree in Political Economy of Industrial Societies from the University of California, Berkeley and a master's degree in Planning from the School of Policy, Planning, and Development at the University of Southern California. He has also earned certificates of completion from the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) Leadership ICMA Program, the University of Virginia Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service Senior Executive Institute, and the Harvard Kennedy School Executive Education Leadership Decision Making Program.

Scott Wolfe

A recovering planner, Scott has more than 30 years in local government service with experience ranging from planning, housing, and code enforcement, to capital projects, information technology, solid waste management, and water/wastewater management. He has worked for the Cities of Palmdale, Thousand Oaks, Moorpark, Westlake Village, and Buellton, where he has been the City Manager since July of 2019. He holds a Masters degree in Public Administration from California Lutheran University.

Aly Zimmermann

Aly Zimmermann was appointed City Manager for the City of Rocklin in November 2020. Prior to joining Rocklin, Aly's career in public administration spanned 23 years, having worked early in career for the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research, then for the League of California Cities, followed by nearly 18 years in the City of Vista. Aly has a master's degree in public administration from San Diego State University and bachelor's degree in international relations from UC Davis.