



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
900 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 1700  
Los Angeles, CA 90017  
T: (213) 236-1800  
www.scag.ca.gov

#### REGIONAL COUNCIL OFFICERS

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**Bill Jahn, Big Bear Lake**

First Vice President  
**Rex Richardson, Long Beach**

Second Vice President  
**Clint Lorimore, Eastvale**

Immediate Past President  
**Alan D. Wapner, San Bernardino  
County Transportation Authority**

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**Bill Jahn, Big Bear Lake**

Community, Economic &  
Human Development  
**Peggy Huang, Transportation  
Corridor Agencies**

Energy & Environment  
**Linda Parks, Ventura County**

Transportation  
**Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro**

# SPECIAL MEETING NOMINATING COMMITTEE

*Wednesday, April 15, 2020  
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.*

## ***PUBLIC ADVISORY***

Given recent public health directives limiting public gatherings due to the threat of COVID-19 and in compliance with the Governor's recent Executive Order N-29-20, the meeting will be held telephonically and electronically.

***Please see next page for detailed instructions on how to participate in the meeting.***

## ***PUBLIC COMMENTS***

**In advance of the meeting, please submit Public Comments by email at: [ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov](mailto:ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov) All Public Comments received will be included in the official record of the meeting.**

If members of the public wish to review the attachments or have any questions on any of the agenda items, please contact Peter Waggonner at (213) 630-1402 or via email at [waggonner@scag.ca.gov](mailto:waggonner@scag.ca.gov). Agendas & Minutes are also available at [www.scag.ca.gov/committees](http://www.scag.ca.gov/committees).

SCAG, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), will accommodate persons who require a modification of accommodation in order to participate in this meeting. SCAG is also committed to helping people with limited proficiency in the English language access the agency's essential public information and services. You can request such assistance by calling (213) 236-1908. We request at least 72 hours (three days) notice to provide reasonable accommodations and will make every effort to arrange for assistance as soon as possible.



## Detailed Instructions for Participating in the Meeting

The Special Meeting of the Nominating Committee scheduled for Wednesday, April 15 at 12:30 p.m. is accessible telephonically and electronically (web-based video conferencing) via Zoom. As Zoom offers optimal functionality through its web-based application, we recommend using a computer to access the meeting. Instructions for both options can be found below.

### **To Join By Zoom**

1. Click the following link: <https://scag.zoom.us/j/353479945>.
2. If Zoom is not already installed on your computer, click “download & run Zoom” on the launch page and press “run” when prompted by your browser. If Zoom has previously been installed on your computer, please allow a few moments for the application to launch automatically.
3. Select “Join Audio via Computer.”
4. The virtual conference room will open. If you receive a message reading, “Please wait for the host to start this meeting,” simply remain in the room until the meeting begins.

### **To Join By Phone**

1. Call **(669) 900-6833** to access the conference room. Given high call volumes recently experienced by Zoom, please continue calling until you connect successfully.
2. Enter the **Meeting ID: 353 479 945**, followed by #.
3. Indicate that you are a participant by pressing # to continue.
4. You will hear audio of the meeting in progress. Remain on the line if the meeting has not yet started.

## Email Public Comments to: [ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov](mailto:ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov)

The public is encouraged to submit comments by sending an email to: [ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov](mailto:ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov). All written comments received before and during the Public Comment period will be read by SCAG staff (up to 3 minutes) and included as part of the official record of the meeting. The Chair has the discretion to reduce the time limit based upon the number of e-comments received and may limit the total time for all public comments to twenty (20) minutes.

## To view past meeting videos: <http://scag.iqm2.com/Citizens/>

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#### **OUR MISSION**

*To foster innovative regional solutions that improve the lives of Southern Californians through inclusive collaboration, visionary planning, regional advocacy, information sharing, and promoting best practices.*

#### **OUR VISION**

*Southern California's Catalyst for a Brighter Future*

#### **OUR CORE VALUES**

*Be Open | Lead by Example | Make an Impact | Be Courageous*



## Special Meeting of the Nominating Committee

**Date:** Wednesday, April 15, 2020  
**Time:** 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM  
**Location:** Remote Participation Only

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### **Nominating Committee Members**

1. Nominating Committee Chair: Immediate Past President Alan D. Wapner
2. Imperial County Representative: Supervisor Luis Plancarte
3. Los Angeles County Representative: Hon. Margaret Finlay
4. Orange County Representative: Hon. Art Brown
5. Riverside County Representative: Hon. Ben Benoit
6. San Bernardino County Representative: Hon. Frank Navarro
7. Ventura County Representative: Hon. Carmen Ramirez



## NOMINATING COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

Southern California Association of Governments  
Remote Participation Only  
**Wednesday, April 15, 2020**  
**12:30 PM**

### **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

*(The Honorable Alan Wapner, Chair)*

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

The public is encouraged to submit comments by sending an email to: [ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov](mailto:ePublicComment@scag.ca.gov). All written comments received before and during the Public Comment period will be read by SCAG staff (up to 3 minutes) and included as part of the official record of the meeting. The Chair has the discretion to reduce the time limit based upon the number of e-comments received and may limit the total time for all public comments to twenty (20) minutes.

### **ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEM**

**Page No.**

- |   |                   |          |
|---|-------------------|----------|
| 1. <u>Nominations for 2020-21 SCAG Officer Positions for President, First Vice President, and Second Vice President</u><br><i>(Ruben Duran, Board Counsel and Justine Block, Acting Chief Counsel/Director of Legal Services)</i> | <b>Attachment</b> | <b>1</b> |
|---|-------------------|----------|

**Recommended Action:** Forward to the Regional Council the recommended candidates for 2020-21 SCAG Officers for the positions of President, First Vice President, and Second Vice President.

### **ANNOUNCEMENT/S**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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#### **OUR MISSION**

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Southern California Association of Governments  
Remote Participation Only  
April 15, 2020

To: Nominating Committee

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S  
APPROVAL

From: Ruben Duran, Board Counsel  
Justine Block, Acting Chief Counsel/  
Director of Legal Services

Subject: Nominations for 2020-21 SCAG Officer Positions for  
President, First Vice President, and Second Vice President

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Forward to the Regional Council the recommended candidates for 2020-21 SCAG Officers for the positions of President, First Vice President, and Second Vice President.

**STRATEGIC PLAN:**

This item supports SCAG's Strategic Plan Goal 1 (Improve Regional Decision Making by Providing Leadership and Consensus Building on Key Plans and Policies; Objective C (Provide practical solutions for moving new ideas forward).

**SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND:**

Each year, the Nominating Committee meets to review and recommend the candidates for the SCAG Officer positions for the upcoming year. Staff received applications from six (6) members of the Regional Council for the three (3) SCAG Officer positions by the deadline of March 20, 2020.

The six (6) applications are as follows:

- 1. For the Position of President: The Honorable Rex Richardson
- 2. For the Position of First Vice President: The Honorable Clint Lorimore
- 3. For the Positions of First Vice President and  
Second Vice President: The Honorable Curt Hagman
- 4. For the Position of Second Vice President: The Honorable Jan Harnik
- 5. For the Position of Second Vice President: The Honorable Peggy Huang
- 6. For the Position of Second Vice President: The Honorable Linda Parks

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The Nominating Committee is requested to consider the applicants and recommend one (1) candidate for each of the positions of: President, First Vice President, and Second Vice President. Thereafter, the Nominating Committee will present its recommended candidates at the next meeting of the Regional Council for review and action.

The slate of officers elected by the Regional Council will then be presented to the General Assembly for ratification as part of its Annual Business Meeting. If ratified by the General Assembly, the new Officers will commence their one (1) year tenure in office upon the adjournment of the General Assembly.

Listed below are the minimum eligibility requirements for the SCAG Officer candidates in accordance with Article VI, Section C of the SCAG Bylaws:

- (1) At the time of the application, the potential candidate must be a representative of a voting-eligible Member of the Association who has served on the Regional Council for at least 24 continuous months from when first appointed to the Regional Council or from when elected to serve on the Regional Council through a District election.
- (2) The potential candidate must be actively involved with SCAG.
- (3) The potential candidate must be a local elected official from a SCAG member county, city or county transportation commission (CTC).
- (4) Term limits will not prevent the potential candidate from serving a full term in the respective officer position.
- (5) A completed nomination application must be submitted to the Association by the appropriate deadline by either the potential candidate or a colleague on the Regional Council.

Based upon staff's review of the applications, all prospective candidates have met the minimum eligibility requirements.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

The applications for the six (6) candidates are attached to this staff report.

1. The Honorable Rex Richardson
2. The Honorable Clint Lorimore
3. The Honorable Curt Hagman
4. The Honorable Jan Harnik
5. The Honorable Peggy Huang
6. The Honorable Linda Parks

**From:** SCAG <no-reply@wufoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 20, 2020 4:42 PM  
**To:** Tess Rey-Chaput  
**Subject:** Application for 2020-2021 SCAG Officer Position [#9]

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** YES

**I acknowledge that \*** I have read the SCAG Bylaws, Article V, Section C, subsection 1-5 as described above; and meet the minimum eligibility requirements.

**Name \*** Rex Richardson

**Name of your SCAG Member County, City or County Transportation Commission \*** City of Long Beach

**Phone Number** (310) 766-3433

**Email \*** [rex.richardson@longbeach.gov](mailto:rex.richardson@longbeach.gov)

**Application for Officer Position \*** President

**Terms of Service completed on SCAG Regional Council, a minimum of one full-term (i.e. a term equates to two** I have completed two terms on the Regional Council.

years on the  
Regional  
Council at  
time of  
application) \*

**Total length of SCAG service (indicate number of years of service) \*** Chair, Community, Economic, and Human Development (CEHD) Committee (May 2017–May 2018)  
Member of the Executive Administration Committee (EAC) (May 2017–May 2018, Current) Moderator,  
2017 Eighth Annual Southern California Economic Summit “Opportunities

**When does the term of your local elected position expire? \*** My current second term as Councilmember expires in 2022, but I have one more 4–year term I can run for.

**Would term limits prevent you from maintaining your local elected position? \*** No.

**Positions held at SCAG \***

Chair, Community, Economic, and Human Development (CEHD) Committee (May 2017–May 2018)

Member of the Executive Administration Committee (EAC) (May 2017–May 2018, Current)

Moderator, 2017 Eighth Annual Southern California Economic Summit “Opportunities Moving Forward” Panel Discussion

Member of the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee (Current)

Member of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) Committee (Current)



Member of the Community, Economic, and Human Development (CEHD) Committee (Current)

2nd Vice President of the SCAG Board (May 2019 – Aug. 2019)

1st Vice President of the SCAG Board (Current)

**1. Why do you wish to serve as a SCAG Officer? \***

I have been fortunate to serve on the SCAG Regional Council for the past five years, diligently working to familiarize myself with the stakeholders of the region, and the needs of the communities and industries they represent. With the planning and implementation of policy initiatives, Connect SoCal and the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA), underway, it's important we maintain a collaborative approach to the future of how we move, work, and live across the region.

Long Beach is the second-largest city in the six-county SCAG region, the home to the regional economic driver of the Port of Long Beach and has never held an executive position with SCAG. The Los Angeles County remains an important voice at the table, as we continue to engage in discussions and make recommendations on regional housing, economic development, and the goods movement.

As the First Vice President, I have provided perspective on these issues, and I look forward to continuing this effort, by ensuring that SCAG jurisdictions have the resources to support the forthcoming growth and modernization.

**2. As an Officer, what would you contribute to SCAG? \***

I believe I bring a unique background and point of view that will help to round out the experience and perspectives of the Executive Team.

As experienced government affairs and community development executive with 13 years of experience in the private, public, and labor sectors across Southern California, and a public official with the first-hand experience in community development, I remain passionate about community building and economic justice. As a professional, I pride myself on meeting and exceeding goals by cultivating partnerships, strategic planning, and comprehensive evaluation.

In Long Beach, I serve as the Chair of our Economic Development & Finance Committee and our local Housing Authority, where I maintain a regional voice on community development and economic inclusion.

In 2017, I launched the “Everyone In” initiative, focused on creating a local economy that includes and benefits every Long Beach resident. I have been a national voice on youth opportunity. In 2016, I was invited to speak at the White House My Brother’s Keeper (MBK) Summit, discussing the establishment of the LB Office of Equity and the PATH Program, a diversion program aimed at utilizing workforce and education partners as an alternative to prosecution for young adults.

As Chair of the CEHD Committee, I brought a refreshing approach to facilitating committee meetings by engaging committee members with a survey on topics and subjects that are most important to SCAG cities. I reformatted committee presentations into a new panel discussion format which has allowed more time for reflection, discussion and engagement.

Moreover, I have experienced the impact and benefits of regional planning and active transportation has on a community. From the Go Human Campaign in North Long Beach; this event was recognized as amongst the most successful Go Human activities in the entire SCAG region. This Initiative ultimately led to the creation of the Uptown Planning Land Use and Neighborhood Strategy (UPLAN), also supported by SCAG, to place a greater focus on mobility in the North Long Beach area.

I plan to help ensure other cities can maximize the benefits of SCAG membership in the way Long Beach has in recent years. Finally, as an owner of a transportation logistics company, I plan to bring on the ground, private sector insight into the ways that policy decisions impact small businesses.

**(A) In addition to attending regular and special meetings of SCAG’s Regional Council, will you be able to attend other meetings and functions of SCAG, if requested? \***

Yes. In my first two terms with SCAG, I have joined delegations to Sacramento, Washington, D.C., China, New Zealand, and Australia. In Washington, D.C., I advocated for transportation bills. In China, I presented on the contradiction between the on-demand economy and the needs of environmental justice. In New Zealand and Australia, I learned about the Road Usage Charge Program.

I also serve as the SCAG representative on the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC), and I represent the City of Long Beach on the Gateway Cities Council of Governments (COG) where we are actively engaged in improving the lives of the residents of our region in four major areas: transportation, air quality, housing, and economic development, all of which align with our work at SCAG.

**(B) What professional or personal constraints on your time or service that you anticipate? \*** I am a part-time Councilmember, a small business owner, and a parent of two small children. My full-time position is as the Government Affairs Manager for a communications infrastructure company, Crown Castle.

Despite the numerous positions I hold, I always make time for each commitment I take on.

I maintain a flexible schedule, being present for my SCAG duties, as well as my Council commitments, and job. I drop off my daughters at school on some mornings, but barring an emergency, I am available to serve in this role.

**4. What are your values and skills that you could bring to SCAG as an Officer? \***

As a small business owner, millennial, and policymaker, I bring a different perspective and skill set that allows me to connect with diverse groups of stakeholders, inspiring them to work together to achieve good public policy outcomes.

I represent the perspectives of the emerging adults impacted by many of the policies that SCAG engages in, from housing affordability and accessibility to emerging technologies and industries.

In Long Beach, I have successfully advocated for investing in key infrastructure, elevating the discussion on equity, and placing a focus on economic inclusion through my Everyone In Initiative.

**5. What is your vision for the future of SCAG and what do you believe needs to be done to accomplish this vision? \***

SCAG should be prepared to address the challenges of today and the future. This means engaging in the discussion and being a leader in addressing the challenges of the housing crisis. Secondly, we should continue our focus on poverty and ensuring economic opportunity is extended to all corners of the SCAG region, from the Imperial Valley to Ventura. And finally, we should continue our focus on data-driven solutions and open data.

We need to make certain that SCAG is equipped to address these challenges by:

1. Continuing to advocate for Southern California as it relates to receiving its fair share of cap and trade funds as well as other resources from Sacramento.
2. Ensuring SCAG elevates Southern California's voice in Washington, D.C., as it relates to local control, goods movement, trade, and infrastructure.

**6. What would you consider the strengths of SCAG? \*** SCAG has the unique capacity to build consensus and balance diverse points of view, articulating the perspectives of Southern California to Washington, D.C. and Sacramento.

**7. What could SCAG improve on? \*** SCAG could do more to promote geographic, ethnic, age, and gender diversity in its Regional Council and leadership, ensuring we reflect the points of view of the diverse Southern California population we all serve.

**Attach a File**  [scag\\_2020\\_letter\\_\\_bio.pdf](#) 151.93 KB · PDF

**Attach a File**  [various\\_articles\\_\\_rex\\_richardson.pdf](#) 1.25 MB · PDF

**Print Your Name** Rex Richardson

**Date** Friday, March 20, 2020

**I acknowledge that \*** by checking this box, my printed name above is my signature for submitting this application.



March 20, 2020

Nominating Committee  
Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)  
900 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1700  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Esteemed Nominating Committee,

Thank you for volunteering to take up the important task of nominating the next slate of qualified candidates to lead this great organization.

I am writing to express my interest in serving as the Board **President** for the Southern California Association of Governments. I have served on the Regional Council over the past 5 years, including Chair of the CEHD Committee, Moderator of the 2017 Southern California Economic Summit Housing Panel Discussion “Opportunities Moving Forward,” representative to the Mobile Source Reduction Committee (MSRC), briefly as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, and presently, as the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.

Respectfully, I submit this letter to reaffirm my interest and to give you a better understanding of my perspective and intent for this position.

**We are designing the future for the next generation.** As a father of two small children, small business owner, and first-generation homeowner, I care deeply about the trajectory of our region. The challenges we face in Southern California, from housing affordability and accessibility, to air quality, workforce readiness and equity; each of these priorities are vital determinants of whether the next generation will have the opportunity to thrive.

The role of cities is especially significant, now more than ever before. Our responsibilities have expanded from simply a minister of policies set forth by the state and federal government, to being the leaders and drivers of a broad range of social and economic issues, like homelessness, workforce development, and overall quality of life.

As a Long Beach City Councilmember, the second largest city in the SCAG region, I have been engaged, first-hand, in the complex and shifting legislative and economic landscape impacting California cities. Personally, I have taken on the task of opening Long Beach’s first year-round municipal homeless shelter and have fought to restore basic amenities like paramedic services and access to financial institutions in my district. These were politically-challenging objectives,



but they reflect the issues that many of our cities face. I am also an advocate for **local control, regional cooperation and planning, and inclusive economic development practices.**

As a representative of the Port of Long Beach, our region's economic driver and entry point for 43% of all trade in the United States, I will ensure SCAG maintains a focus on boosting, cleaning, and modernizing the goods movement industry that affects all 6 SCAG counties. And as a small business owner, I understand the intersectionality of public policy and economic prosperity. We should embrace strategies that provide opportunities for families to live healthy and thrive.

In working with SCAG, I have witnessed our ability to help cities and the region overcome many of these challenges. I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to continue helping to lead our region as President. Enclosed, you will find a biography and some background materials highlighting the work I have engaged in over the past 5 years. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly, at (310) 766-3433.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rex Richardson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rex Richardson  
Councilmember  
City of Long Beach, 9th District



### **Councilmember Richardson's Bio**

Rex Richardson was elected to the Long Beach City Council in 2014 to represent the neighborhoods of North Long Beach in District 9 and serves as Chair of the Economic Development Committee and the Long Beach Housing Authority.

Councilmember Richardson's history in Long Beach is grounded in advocating for our most vulnerable residents and empowering communities to have a seat at the table and an opportunity to thrive.

City-wide, Councilmember Richardson has worked to shift the culture of City Hall by embracing a systemic and collaborative approach to solving the city's challenges. Richardson championed the creation of the Long Beach Office of Equity, to help address the economic and health disparities affecting Long Beach neighborhoods and spearheaded a number of innovative initiatives that provide more opportunities to close the gap for our vulnerable populations, including the Long Beach My Brother's Keeper Initiative, and the PATH Young Adult Diversion program.

Representing the 9th District, he has led North Long Beach on a "Roadmap to its Renaissance" by placing a focus on economic and community revitalization, with major infrastructure investment, like the new Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library, Houghton Park Community Center, new retail development, and the Creative Corridor Mural Arts Project. Most recently, Councilmember Richardson launched #EveryoneIn, an initiative designed to create a local economy that includes and benefits every Long Beach resident.

Rex, his wife Nina, and daughters Alina and Mila are proud residents of the Collins Neighborhood in North Long Beach.

## LOCAL NEWS

# Four ways a Long Beach City Councilman wants to tackle homelessness



From left, Josh Butler from advocacy group Housing Long Beach chats with residents Angel George and Jerry Alonzo outside of their Chestnut Avenue apartment in Long Beach on Wednesday, July 18, 2018. Residents at the 12 unit complex have been getting eviction notices by their new property management company. (Photo by Scott Varley, Press-Telegram/SCNG)

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By [HAYLEY MUNGUIA](mailto:hmunguia@scng.com) | [hmunguia@scng.com](mailto:hmunguia@scng.com) | Long Beach



As [pressure builds on Long Beach](#) to address the city's housing crisis, which some say is pushing people out of the city and even forcing them into homelessness, City Councilman Rex Richardson is taking the mantle of finding new solutions.

Richardson, who represents District 9 in North Long Beach, charged city staff on Tuesday, July 24, with four tasks to begin the process of providing more services for the homeless in Long Beach and making the city more affordable. City Council unanimously voted along with Richardson on the issue. The four assignments Richardson gave city staff are:

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- Come to the next meeting with options for “a dedicated local revenue strategy” to fund more housing and services, which would likely mean some type of new bond or tax
- Start the process of buying a building to use as a year-round homeless shelter
- Create a policy addressing source-of-income discrimination, such as landlords illegally refusing to rent to people on Section 8
- Find funding strategies and partners to buy “[nuisance motels](#)” and turn them into affordable housing

Richardson said he realizes the complexity of the issues and assured his fellow council members that he’s not trying to rush and implement quick fixes. He said he merely wants to move forward a process that’s been underway for years.

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“In talking with city staff and preparing this, we knew that there was already a number of things prepared by staff, but this type of report hasn’t been requested to be heard in front of City Council to start a comprehensive discussion,” Richardson said. “So I get it, it seems like we’re asking for a lot. But no, we’re asking them to present what they’ve been working on for years and give them their day for us to talk about.”

That notion — that City Council should discuss staff’s work and move toward decision-making — was one his colleagues at the dais could get behind. But when it came to specifics, some were clear that they don’t completely agree with Richardson’s vision.

Councilwoman Suzie Price, who represents District 3 in the southeastern edge of the city, said she is hesitant to group together problems like affordable housing and homelessness, which she sees as two separate and complex issues.

“Both issues are very important issues, but merging them together, I think, confuses the issue,” Price said. “I think the conversation we should be having really should be about affordable housing and finding an ongoing sustainable local source for local affordable housing. That’s a very separate conversation, in my opinion, than the very complex issue of homelessness.”

Price also said that she hopes city staff will be able to find a funding source that does not require voters to pass another tax measure, a scenario she said she “cannot imagine” supporting.

“On the heels of all the different increases that we have passed and asked voters to support, I personally — I don’t want to be in a position where we’re asking them to pay more into something,” she said, “especially something that is really very preliminary at this juncture.”

For Mayor Robert Garcia’s part, he said he supports Long Beach finding more solutions. But he also bristled at the implication the city hasn’t already been working on the issue.

“There are 7,000 rent-stabilized units in Long Beach, or rent-controlled units, or whatever you want to call those units,” Garcia said. “There’s a wide consensus that we need to have more rent-stabilized apartments in Long Beach. Most people have said that, and we’re working on expanding those types of units across the city. ... There are about 1,000 right now that are under construction.”

Richardson said he brought the matter forward because he believes the city needs to do even more, and the conversation is the first step.

“I know that with sort of this history of nimbyism, council offices haven’t really been willing to step up and say, ‘Hey, I’ll take on this fight, I’ll take on this conversation,’” he said. “With that history, there needs to be a little bit of buy-in before Council — before city staff, really — can really move forward on some of these conversations.”

# Shattering Stereotypes: Transforming North Long Beach

By Brandon Richardson, Senior Writer - May 21, 2018

The past several years have seen Long Beach's renaissance begin to touch the city's northernmost neighborhoods. From the openings of the \$10 million Fire Station 12 in 2013 and the 24,655-square-foot Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library in 2016, to the current construction on the Houghton Park Community Center, North Long Beach is being revitalized, and there are no signs of momentum slowing down.



As part of the renaissance occurring in North Long Beach, construction is underway on a new community center at Houghton Park. Pictured from left: Shawna Stevens, chief of staff; Jessica Estrada, legislative aid; Brent McCloud, field representative; Vice Mayor and 9th District Councilmember Rex Richardson; Samira Foy, communications specialist; Keyona Montgomery, legislative aid intern; and Alyssa Gutierrez, policy director. (Photograph by the Business Journal's Anne Artley)

"The Atlantic Avenue corridor has been transforming across the city for years and now it's just time for North Long Beach to have its share," Vice Mayor and 9th District Councilmember Rex Richardson said. "We're already seeing North

Long Beach become more and more economically viable and contribute more to the city's bottom line."

Homeownership in the northern part of the city is strong, with a median income of about \$63,000 per year and a poverty rate under 10%, Richardson said. Based upon these figures from the United States Census Bureau, he noted that the demographics and reality of North Long Beach today do not match its long-standing stigma as a poor, crime-ridden and desolate area.

"Part of the stigma with North Long Beach is there is a line of demarcation north of the railroad tracks at Del Amo Boulevard," 8th District Councilmember Al Austin said. "What I have worked to do and continue to work to do is bridge the communities and make them one. Make it so North Long Beach isn't seen as less than Bixby Knolls or any other area."

Planned developments by Frontier Real Estate Investments, LAB Holding LLC and Westland Real Estate Group along the Atlantic Avenue corridor will see millions of dollars invested into the area in the hopes of fulfilling restaurant, retail and service needs long scarce in North Long Beach. Austin said these projects will complement the great community that already exists in the area, while also attracting new residents and visitors.

Providing residents with retail and restaurants near their homes will naturally increase foot traffic and walkability in the area, Austin explained. He noted that some of the properties purchased by the LAB have been vacant for over five years. Filling in these holes will be a catalyst for additional investment and development, he added. The three developments promote community interaction and connection by featuring ample communal space for residents to gather, eat, drink and socialize.

To promote positivity and safety in the area, Richardson said activation and engagement are key, noting the new farmers market at Houghton Park, the Uptown Jazz Festival, the Veterans Day Parade and other large-scale North Long Beach community events.

Richardson said the services and amenities new developments bring will make the community whole and that further enhancements can be made from there to create a safe and thriving North Long Beach. To complement the developments and ensure a common theme along the corridors, the city applied for and was awarded grants for streetscape improvements, including around \$15 million for Artesia Boulevard.

"More than anything we are seeking to get a consistent theme with bulb-outs, street furniture and lighting. Things of that nature," Austin said. "The transformation can't come soon enough. We certainly are not resting on our laurels; we want to make sure we get these projects across the finish line because the North Long Beach community sorely deserves them."

In addition to public and private investments in properties and streetscapes, Uptown Business Improvement District Executive Director Tasha Hunter said there has been a successful push for increased security and improved relations between the community and police. Bixby Knolls-based C.S.I. Patrol Services Inc. patrols North Long Beach regularly, she said. Many of C.S.I.'s employees live in the area, which means they have a better understanding of the issues, which makes them more effective, Hunter explained.

Through city and business improvement district (BID) efforts, North Long Beach is entering a time of transition for the better. Uptown BID Executive Director Tasha Hunter and 8th District Councilmember Al Austin are pictured in front of the 24,655-square-foot Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library on Atlantic Avenue, which is the city's most advanced library branch. (Photograph by the Business Journal's Pat Flynn)

"What will definitely work even better is activating a lot of these empty storefronts. Once these new developments come in, they automatically serve as extra eyes on the streets," Hunter said. "When there is engagement and activity and people eating out, statistics show there tends to be less crime."

The business improvement district (BID) hosts monthly security meetings during which businesses and residents receive updates from C.S.I. and the Long Beach Police Department. The meetings are also an opportunity for people to voice concerns and opinions related to safety in the area.

When looking at the success of the Downtown Long Beach and how far the area has come, Hunter said she is excited to see Uptown moving in the same direction. There has been a steady increase in people's interest to buy property, develop land and open businesses in North Long Beach, she explained, noting that the area is starting to be seen as more of a destination because of its potential.

"All of this together is really a case study of urban revitalization. It's all about economic inclusion, which is making sure every part of our town is economically viable and playing to the strengths of those communities," Richardson said. "There is a certain experience you can get in each of our neighborhoods that is distinct and different, and [these] are strengths we should continue to highlight. There's sort of a movement to activate and engage North Long Beach. If it can happen here, it can happen anywhere."

# SCAG Funding Opens Door To 'UPLAN,' A Land-use Document For North Long Beach

*By Samantha Mehlinger, Assistant Editor - February 13, 2017*

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City officials and business interests have hailed Long Beach's Downtown Plan as a major factor in the area's development and success. Now, the city may be able to develop a similar planning document for North Long Beach, thanks to \$250,000 in funding recently approved by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG).

The idea for UPLAN – an acronym for Uptown Planning Land Use And Neighborhood Strategy – was conceived in and championed by the 9th District, according to Vice Mayor/Councilmember Rex Richardson.

"The Downtown Plan was a collection of documents that updated the land use, created some incentives, streamlined environmental impacts and created the stage for development to take place in downtown. We're doing the same thing but differently, because downtown is very different than uptown," Richardson said. "We're going to look at areas where we can modernize and update the land use to set the stage for more investment, just like downtown," he explained.

While there are multiple developments planned in and around North Long Beach, there is no single guiding plan for the area, Richardson explained.

"UPLAN would be one strategy, one community plan for North Long Beach that ties it all together and spurs more economic development," he said.

The plan might address ways to capitalize on North Long Beach's industrial area, which accounts for one-third of the industrial space in the city, according to Richardson. It may also address the area's corridors and creating connectivity between areas of development. "We have to make sure the table is set for better community development," he said.



While the grant application was conceived by and pertains to the 9th District, Richardson said the idea has not been fully scoped. When asked if UPLAN could include the 8th District, he said, "We look at North Long Beach as one community, and just because it starts in District 9 doesn't necessarily mean it stops where the border boundaries stop."

The \$250,000 grant awarded by SCAG will go to Long Beach Development Services, which created the grant application and will spearhead development of the document.

According to a press release from Richardson's office, the funding is awaiting final approval by the California Transportation Commission and the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee.

"Residents will actually be a part of crafting it," Richardson said of UPLAN. "The title is UPLAN, but you can think of it as U-Plan."

Richardson has begun creating a task force to oversee the creation of the document. The chair is Tom Carpenter, whose firm, Frontier Real Estate Investments, is developing a former redevelopment agency property at Atlantic Avenue and Artesia Boulevard. The vice chair is Tasha Hunter, director of the Uptown Business Improvement District. A second vice chair appointment is pending, Richardson said.

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🔍 📅 **LBP** Vice Mayor Richardson at White House My B...



MY BROTHER'S KEEPER

December 17, 2016

# Vice Mayor Richardson at White House My Brother's Keeper Summit: 'It Has to Be Personal'

by **Stephanie Rivera** in **News**



Photo courtesy of Vice Mayor Rex Richardson.

Long Beach Vice Mayor Rex Richardson participated in the White House's final My Brother's Keeper National Summit on Wednesday, highlighting the city's efforts in helping its boys and young men of color as part of its answer to President Barack Obama's call to action, which challenged communities across the U.S. to focus resources on that specific portion of the population.

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Richardson, who led the charge in implementing MBK in Long Beach in 2015, discussed the city's Promising Adults Tomorrow's Hope (PATH) young adult diversion program and the creation of the Long Beach Office of Equity.

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Nominating Committee  
22 of 63

"It forced us to, rather than have this as some plan to put in our pocket or sit on a shelf, it forced us to add staff and build capacity and actually implement that plan," Richardson said during a panel discussion with other local leaders who have implemented MBK in their districts.

The vice mayor also pointed to Safe Long Beach, which was created as a direct response to the president's community challenge. It addresses a broad safety agenda aimed at reducing all forms of violence, including domestic abuse, child abuse, elder abuse, hate crimes, bullying, gang violence, and violent crime.

Finally, Richardson explained the city's Long Beach College Promise, which drew applause from the audience. Under the program, any Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD) student is guaranteed a spot at Cal State Long Beach (CSULB). If they don't qualify at CSULB then they have the opportunity to receive two semesters of tuition free schooling at Long Beach City College (LBCC).

Richardson, who was raised by a single mother and identified himself as a "free lunch kid" who attended 14 public schools before attending college, also noted the importance of making connections.

"It has to be personal," he told the audience. "The moment for me, personally, when I knew I wanted to work on an issue like this and commit to public service, was the moment I received my college acceptance letter. When I was 17 years old and I received that letter that said to me: 'you overcame barriers, you have value and you matter, and since you matter you have a commitment to pay that forward'."

To see the full summit, click here [↗](#).

*Stephanie Rivera covers immigration and the north, west and central parts of Long Beach. Reach her at [stephanie@lbpost.com](mailto:stephanie@lbpost.com) or on Twitter at [@StephRivera88](https://twitter.com/StephRivera88).*



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  \$10.00
  \$20.00
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LOCAL NEWS

## Long Beach OKs \$9.6M property purchase for year-round homeless shelter



Council member Rex Richardson speaks during a press conference announcing agreement to acquire property for future year-round homeless shelter in north Long Beach on Monday, January 28, 2018. (Photo by Ana P. Garcia, Contributing Photographer)

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By [HAYLEY MUNGUIA](mailto:hmunguia@scng.com) | hmunguia@scng.com | Long Beach Press-Telegram

PUBLISHED: February 5, 2019 at 9:00 pm | UPDATED: February 5, 2019 at 9:57 pm

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Long Beach will move forward with the \$9.6 million purchase of more than two acres of property for a year-round homeless shelter, thanks to a unanimous City Council vote on Tuesday, Feb. 5.

[The North Long Beach property](#), located at 6481-6845 Atlantic Ave., is currently home to Eddie's Liquor and the former site of Atlantic Farms. But by next summer, it will be the city's first municipal, year-round homeless shelter.

According to city staff, the shelter will serve homeless adults, with 125 beds and services like job training. It will also have temporary space for homeless families, along with the support to help them find long-term housing.

Councilman Rex Richardson, who represents the ninth district where the property is located, kicked off the discussion during Tuesday's meeting by emphasizing that the purchase is just the beginning of the process.

"This is a test. Everyone's watching," he said. "We're going to need 75, 100 more shelter beds in the city to make this work. This isn't the end-all, be-all solution for homelessness in the city."

He was referring to a [report released last year](#) by the Everyone Home Long Beach task force, which found the city needs to add 200 emergency homeless shelter beds by the end of 2020.

Regardless, Richardson said the purchase is an important step, and he thanked his council colleagues for their support in making it a reality.

The vote followed a lengthy public comment period, in which dozens of people gave varying thoughts on the deal. While nearly everyone who spoke agreed that Long Beach needs a shelter, some questioned whether the city is getting the best deal possible.

"I worry that the value of the property has been inflated by a marijuana gold rush that is over," said Long Beach resident Lauren Boland, referring to the fact that an appraisal of the property attached some of its value to the revenue it could potentially generate in the cannabis business.

"I ask the city to get another appraisal. ... Do the due diligence. The homeless people out there need every dollar spent appropriately," she added.

Boland was not the only community member to raise that concern. The Long Beach Reform Coalition was also [skeptical about the price tag](#), citing the fact that the property last sold in December 2013 for \$2 million.

But John Keisler, the city’s economic development director, said that sale figure was below market value due to an arrangement between the buyer and seller at that time. He said the appraisal that Long Beach commissioned, which pinned the property’s value at about \$7.5 million, reflected growing property values for industrial real estate in the area overall.

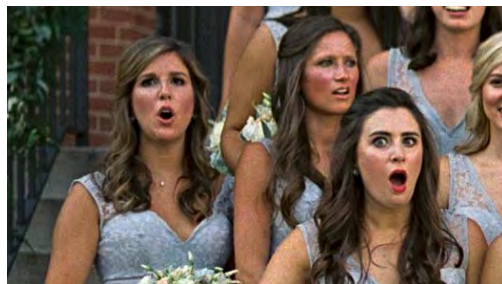
Regardless of those concerns, most of the residents who spoke simply expressed their full-throated support.

Maricela de Rivera, a ninth district resident who lives within walking distance of the site, was one of them.

“I’ve seen people in District Nine — my neighborhood — say, ‘Yes in my backyard,’ because we are going to help people,” she said. “I’m incredibly proud of Rex Richardson and the city of Long Beach for taking this measure.”

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Tags: [homeless](#), [Top Stories LBPT](#)



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### **Bride Cries After Groom Tells Wedding Crowd He Loves Someone Else** [↗](#)

By Upbeat News

**upbeat**

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## **Hayley Munguia**

Hayley Munguia covers Long Beach City Hall for the Southern California News Group. She previously worked as a data reporter for FiveThirtyEight and

**From:** SCAG <no-reply@wufoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 20, 2020 2:37 PM  
**To:** Tess Rey-Chaput  
**Subject:** Application for 2020-2021 SCAG Officer Position [#6]

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** YES

<b>I acknowledge that *</b>	I have read the SCAG Bylaws, Article V, Section C, subsection 1-5 as described above; and meet the minimum eligibility requirements.
<b>Name *</b>	Clint Lorimore
<b>Name of your SCAG Member County, City or County Transportation Commission *</b>	Eastvale
<b>Phone Number</b>	(951) 520-5832
<b>Email *</b>	<a href="mailto:clorimore@eastvaleca.gov">clorimore@eastvaleca.gov</a>
<b>Application for Officer Position *</b>	1st Vice President
<b>Terms of Service completed on SCAG Regional Council, a minimum of one full-term (i.e. a term equates to two years on the Regional Council at time of application) *</b>	2
<b>Total length of SCAG service (indicate number of years of service) *</b>	5
<b>When does the term of your local elected position expire? *</b>	December 2022
<b>Would term limits prevent you from maintaining your local elected position? *</b>	No
<b>Positions held at SCAG *</b>	2nd Vice President Chair - Audit Committee Co-Chair of the 2020 General Assembly Committee

Executive Administration Committee  
Legislative Communications and Membership Committee  
Transportation Committee  
District 4 Representative to the Regional Council  
Scholarship Committee

**1. Why do you wish to serve as a SCAG Officer? \***

I maintain a strong commitment to SCAG and wish to continuing serving in a larger role within the organization.

**2. As an Officer, what would you contribute to SCAG? \***

As an Officer of SCAG, I will continue to contribute my time and efforts in support of the organization's mandate and policy priorities.

**(A) In addition to attending regular and special meetings of SCAG's Regional Council, will you be able to attend other meetings and functions of SCAG, if requested? \***

Yes

**(B) What professional or personal constraints on your time or service that you anticipate? \***

I maintain a full time job. While I do have flexibility in my work schedule as a salaried employee, there are at times availability constraints. This being said, I take my elected responsibilities seriously and adjust my calendar accordingly.

**4. What are your values and skills that you could bring to SCAG as an Officer? \***

I bring a commitment of service, dedication to the task at hand and the ability to work collaboratively through contentious issues.

**5. What is your vision for the future of SCAG and what do you believe needs to be done to accomplish this vision? \***

My vision for the future of SCAG is that the organization take a larger role in influencing the discussions and outcomes surrounding its policy priorities and areas of expertise. SCAG should be the indispensable tool that policy makers come to when searching for solutions to problems facing the state and the region. We get to such a place by improving upon our advocacy efforts and leveraging and promoting the expertise of staff already employed at the organization.

**6. What would you consider the strengths of SCAG? \***

SCAG has many strengths. The two that I would like to highlight are SCAG's Staff and SCAG's Board Members. The professionalism and competence of SCAG's staff is second to none. Staff's expertise, combined with the policy and decision making acumen of the Board make for a powerful organization.



**7. What could SCAG improve on? \***

One area that the organization can improve is in the area of advocacy. A deeper pursuit of SCAG's policy priorities at the State and Federal level would pay huge dividends for the region we serve. Too often SCAG is forced to play defense as opposed to providing innovative policy solutions for the problems facing our region.

**Print Your Name**

Clint Lorimore

**Date**

Friday, March 20, 2020

**I acknowledge that \***

by checking this box, my printed name above is my signature for submitting this application.

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**From:** SCAG <no-reply@wufoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 20, 2020 3:05 PM  
**To:** Tess Rey-Chaput  
**Subject:** Application for 2020-2021 SCAG Officer Position [#7]

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** YES

**I acknowledge that \*** I have read the SCAG Bylaws, Article V, Section C, subsection 1-5 as described above; and meet the minimum eligibility requirements.

**Name \*** Curt Hagman

**Name of your SCAG Member County, City or County Transportation Commission \*** San Bernardino County

**Phone Number** (909) 387-4866

**Email \*** [Curt.Hagman@bos.sbcounty.gov](mailto:Curt.Hagman@bos.sbcounty.gov)

**Application for Officer Position \*** 1st Vice President  
2nd Vice President

**Terms of Service completed on SCAG Regional Council, a minimum of one full-term (i.e. a term equates to two** 2

years on the  
Regional  
Council at  
time of  
application) \*

Total length of 5  
SCAG service  
(indicate  
number of  
years of  
service) \*

When does the December, 2022  
term of your  
local elected  
position  
expire? \*

Would term No  
limits prevent  
you from  
maintaining  
your local  
elected  
position? \*

Positions held Chairman of the Transportation Committee  
at SCAG \* Member of the Legislative / Communications & Membership Committee  
Member of the Regional Council  
Member of the Executive Administration Committee  
Chairman of the Emerging Technologies Committee  
Member of the Open Data / Big Data Committee

**1. Why do you wish to serve as a SCAG Officer? \***

I wish to serve as a SCAG Officer because I believe that SCAG has an important mission in connecting the lives of residents in Southern California. This includes transportation, technology, housing, and many other issues where a regional approach is valuable. SCAG's slogan of "Innovating for a Better Tomorrow" holds a key goal that I also have in

ensuring that our residents are well served both now and into the future. As County Supervisor, a former legislator and mayor, I am keenly aware of the needs and challenges of our region and am up to the large task of doing what I can to lead others in finding innovative solutions. I have served at all levels of government, and I have served members of San Bernardino, Los Angeles, and Orange Counties, so I have developed a regional perspective. As an Officer, I would have the opportunity to continue to work with staff and other elected officials in moving our region forward.

**2. As an Officer, what would you contribute to SCAG? \*** My strengths as an officer would come from thinking out of the box. It takes a lot of hard work and dedication to bring projects to completion. In my many years of service, I have developed a reputation of someone who works well with others, thinks out of the box and gets things done. This collaborative approach to solving our region's challenges is an asset, and one that I will continue to leverage as an Officer. My broad base of experience in the public and private sector allow me to approach challenges in a unique way, and reach innovative solutions.

**(A) In addition to attending regular and special meetings of SCAG's Regional Council, will you be able to attend other meetings and functions of SCAG, if requested? \*** Being engaged is an important part of being a leader, I look forward to playing an active role in moving forward SCAG goals and initiatives.

**(B) What professional or personal constraints on your time or service that you anticipate? \*** I understand that this role comes with additional responsibilities and am ready and able to play an active role upon becoming an officer. The only challenges that I foresee would be possible scheduling conflicts; though, I would prioritize this role in the event of competing priorities. I presently serve as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors in San Bernardino County, and I look forward to bringing that experience to SCAG.

**4. What are your values and skills that you could bring to SCAG as an Officer?** My reputation as someone who works well with others and gets the job done will be valuable assets in supporting the President and ensuring that SCAG as an organization achieves and exceeds its goals for our region. Regarding values and skill set, I look forward to continuing to bring creative problem solving, leading by example and innovative ideas to the table.

\*

**5. What is your vision for the future of SCAG and what do you believe needs to be done to accomplish this vision? \***

There are a number of issues that need to be approached from a regional perspective rather than being in silos in a particular city or county because the issues cross political boundaries. Homelessness, transportation, and the use of technology are three issues that don't recognize city or county lines, and many others exist. Technology has been a personal interest area, one that I have continued to bring to the forefront of our organization's list of priorities and considerations. As a result of creating this dialogue, I asked for a subcommittee to be formed that explored some of the facets of implementing technology to meet our residents' needs. We have scratched the surface of what technology can do to help us solve problems, I believe that this needs to be an ongoing conversation, and will be actively engaged in further exploring as an Officer.

**6. What would you consider the strengths of SCAG? \***

SCAG is the largest MPO in our nation, with six counties, 191 cities and more than 19 million residents. We serve almost 50% of the total population of California. If our region was a state, we would be 5th largest on the list from the top with almost as many residents as the entire State of New York. The diverse size and scope of the region makes SCAG well-respected in all areas of planning in which it is engaged. SCAG does a phenomenal job of anticipating the infrastructure our region will need to keep up with the demands by residents to stay mobile.

SCAG also does a great job pursuing grant opportunities to improve the lives of residents, and works with our local partners in ensuring that we are heard.

**7. What could SCAG improve on? \*** Because we serve so many communities, communication with the public is not always a simple task especially when it comes to reaching all of our stakeholders. SCAG is doing well in this area, and this is an area that I think that we can continue to improve as our technological capabilities increase. We should focus on non-traditional solutions to some of our regional challenges such as looking to improve goods movement and upgrades to government technological improvements.

**Print Your Name** Curt Hagman

**Date**

Friday, March 20, 2020

**I acknowledge** by checking this box, my printed name above is my signature for submitting this application.  
**that \***

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**From:** SCAG <no-reply@wufoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 15, 2020 9:08 PM  
**To:** Tess Rey-Chaput  
**Subject:** Application for 2020-2021 SCAG Officer Position [#4]

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** YES

**I acknowledge that \*** I have read the SCAG Bylaws, Article V, Section C, subsection 1-5 as described above; and meet the minimum eligibility requirements.

**Name \*** Jan Harnik

**Name of your SCAG Member County, City or County Transportation Commission \*** Riverside County Transportation Commission

**Phone Number** (760) 285-7531

**Email \*** [jharnik@cityofpalmdesert.org](mailto:jharnik@cityofpalmdesert.org)

**Application for Officer Position \*** 2nd Vice President

**Terms of Service completed on SCAG Regional Council, a minimum of one full-term (i.e. a term equates to two** 3 terms

years on the  
Regional  
Council at  
time of  
application) \*

Total length of 7 years  
SCAG service  
(indicate  
number of  
years of  
service) \*

When does the December of 2022  
term of your  
local elected  
position  
expire? \*

Would term No  
limits prevent  
you from  
maintaining  
your local  
elected  
position? \*

Positions held Regional Council, Transportation Committee, General Assembly Host Committee, Executive  
at SCAG \* Administration Committee, Legislative/Communications & Membership Committee (Chair), Scholarship  
Committee

**1. Why do you wish to serve as a SCAG Officer? \***

In my years with Southern California Association of Governments, I have learned that the communities represented by SCAG, though each is unique with many diverse challenges and strengths, also share many of the same issues. With direct, honest and respectful conversation, we can focus on developing goals and solutions. Our current public health issue is an unfortunate and clear example of the need to work together for the best outcome; understanding how we impact, complement and depend on each other to achieve the best result.

I believe my willingness to tackle difficult subjects and communicate and work with others, will be an asset in this position. The need to raise awareness of SCAG and the region represented by SCAG, is critical. Our State, nation, and our representatives, must understand the SCAG region's impact on the economy and quality of life for everyone so that necessary resources will be appropriately allocated. The opportunity to continue this effort is something I welcome and am highly motivated to do.

## **2. As an Officer, what would you contribute to SCAG? \***

The perspective I bring as a Southern Californian native – from Pacoima to Palm Desert, with numerous stops along the way – is valuable. Today as a representative from Riverside county and the Coachella Valley, I am aware of the difficulties of transportation, housing and education in urban, suburban, rural and low-density areas. I recognize the issues presented by our agricultural communities and their importance to our economy and health. Additionally, I will continue to shed light and stress the impending health and economic concerns developing from the degradation of the Salton Sea that will impact the SCAG region, California and beyond.

Observing and learning from the members and staff of SCAG, most recently in the RHNA process, has been a great opportunity. The give and take, debate, and critical and deliberate thinking, has been an opportunity for me to grow as a representative and public servant. My creativity, tenacity and strong emphasis on respectful dialogue will hopefully lead to realistic solutions. I would like to bring those qualities to SCAG in an even greater volume than I am currently able.

**(A) In addition** Yes  
**to attending**  
**regular and**  
**special**  
**meetings of**  
**SCAG's**  
**Regional**  
**Council, will**  
**you be able to**  
**attend other**  
**meetings and**  
**functions of**  
**SCAG, if**  
**requested? \***

**(B) What professional or personal constraints on your time or service that you anticipate? \***

I am a councilmember for the City of Palm Desert and am active at RCTC. Occasionally there may be a scheduling conflict.

**4. What are your values and skills that you could bring to SCAG as an Officer? \***

I am open-minded and serve with enthusiasm and respect for the process and my colleagues. Integrity and inclusiveness are invaluable when developing and implementing solutions. Public service has been my greatest teacher and listening with objectivity is a valuable skill that I continue to hone.

My belief that the greatest investment that America has made is education for everyone underscores my belief that the answers to our issues of today and tomorrow lie in high quality, accessible and relevant education. There is no question that we must invest in our youth by providing the education that will insure a brilliant future for us all. The skills that I have learned, and continue to work on, to be an effective and loving parent, apply in all areas of life – patience, listening, acceptance and so many more ... as my children do not hesitate to remind me.

**5. What is your vision for the future of SCAG and what do you believe needs to be done to accomplish this vision? \***

My vision for SCAG is that we understand that the desire to "win" does not mean anyone must "lose". Our cities, counties and agencies must work together to manage our resources, promote health and lift our neighbors. We must continue to listen, learn and include. To effectuate the vision, we need to recognize that the great potential of our young people, coupled with the wisdom and experience of others will help us achieve our goals. Our community's young people are our early adopters and quite often, our disrupters. With knowledge and understanding, they will promote and implement the improvement to our physical environment, inclusiveness and healthy lifestyles, We must embrace, include and inspire our youth.

**6. What would you consider the strengths of SCAG? \***

SCAG's strength lies in participation by diverse representatives and staff and the willingness to tackle difficult issues. When identifying issues, we also work to identify plausible solutions and present both. We recognize and respect change while working to bring the answers that will work for the greater good and for the future. Additionally, remaining agile to respond to fluctuations and the inevitable change that time brings, is difficult, nonetheless the effort to do so is encouraging. Quite often the issues that we tackle exemplify the differences of the region. The differences

are sometimes significant enough to be jarring, but assists in opening our minds to how we can and must work together.

**7. What could SCAG improve on? \*** Over the years, we have been told that we must have our voices heard in Sacramento and Washington DC. Our recent trip to Sacramento made that abundantly clear. An annual visit will not get the job done. Developing a plan to be a powerful "squeaky wheel" when appropriate is vital. Our region must respond immediately and with a strong presence in Sacramento when needed. SCAG's message must be strong, consistent and clear. SCAG represents southern California and our needs and contributions to California and the nation are important. We make a difference for the good.

**Print Your Name** Jan C Harnik

**Date** Sunday, March 15, 2020

**I acknowledge that \*** by checking this box, my printed name above is my signature for submitting this application.

**From:** SCAG <no-reply@wufoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 16, 2020 10:28 PM  
**To:** Tess Rey-Chaput  
**Subject:** Application for 2020-2021 SCAG Officer Position [#5]

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** YES

**I acknowledge that \*** I have read the SCAG Bylaws, Article V, Section C, subsection 1-5 as described above; and meet the minimum eligibility requirements.

**Name \*** Peggy Huang

**Name of your SCAG Member County, City or County Transportation Commission \*** Transportation Corridor Agencies

**Phone Number** (714) 875-1505

**Email \*** [phuang@yorbalingca.gov](mailto:phuang@yorbalingca.gov)

**Application for Officer Position \*** 2nd Vice President

**Terms of Service completed on SCAG Regional Council, a minimum of one full-term (i.e. a term equates to two** one term

years on the  
Regional  
Council at  
time of  
application) \*

Total length of 2 years 6 months  
SCAG service  
(indicate  
number of  
years of  
service) \*

When does the 2022  
term of your  
local elected  
position  
expire? \*

Would term Yes  
limits prevent  
you from  
maintaining  
your local  
elected  
position? \*

Positions held Chair of CEHD (2018–2020)  
at SCAG \* Chair of RHNA Subcommittee (2019–2021)

**1. Why do you wish to serve as a SCAG Officer? \***

I want to work on setting a cohesive and consistent vision for 2030 that will bring all member jurisdictions to view Southern California as a region and not a patchwork of individual jurisdictions. As chairwoman for CEHD and the RHNA Subcommittee, I observed that jurisdictions continue to view themselves as individuals rather than as a part of the SCAG region. The RHNA discussions at RC revealed that much more work is still needed to be done to bring all jurisdictions to the table for fruitful discussions and collaborations. Presently, jurisdictions are working loosely with one another toward a common goal, but not collaboratively. Cohesiveness and collaboration can only be achieved if there is a vision for the



region and we all work as a unit toward it. I hope that as the second vice president, I will bring everyone to the table to work on the strengths of the region and fortify the weak points.

**2. As an Officer, what would you contribute to SCAG? \*** My skills are mediation and collaboration. As Chair of CEHD and the RHNA Subcommittee, I fostered an environment where policy discussions occurred and viewpoints are heard. It is important to assure all members have an opportunity to be heard and involved in discussing pressing issues. My ability to keep committee members laser-focus on discussing issues is critical to attaining the goal of having individual jurisdictions begin to think and work collaboratively on the challenges we face in the region.

**(A) In addition to attending regular and special meetings of SCAG's Regional Council, will you be able to attend other meetings and functions of SCAG, if requested? \*** Yes, with some advance notice.

**(B) What professional or personal constraints on your time or service that you anticipate? \*** I do have court appearances that may conflict with last-minute meetings or functions.

**4. What are your values and skills that you could bring to SCAG as an Officer? \***

In addition to what I stated in question number two, my policy experience on issues such as water, environment, and education would help facilitate discussions among SCAG members on infrastructure issues. Also, I have a good working relationship with member jurisdictions and SCAG staff members. I believe that it is just as important to communicate

and solicit support from members who may be in the minority on an issue as it is to have majority support. Where there are conflicts and disagreement, I have the negotiation skills to find a common ground to achieve the desired goal.

As an MPO, transportation is the core of SCAG's function. I take three forms of public transportation every day to and from work: train, bus, and subway. My experiences in utilizing the public transit system and the need for a "last mile" solution will contribute to the discussion of developing a public transit system within a car-dependent society. Given a recent study showing that ride-sharing caused an increase in greenhouse gas and not a reduction as many had expected, my experience can assist SCAG in taking a leadership role in solving the "last mile" problem.

**5. What is your vision for the future of SCAG and what do you believe needs to be done to accomplish this vision? \*** I envision SCAG to be the force needed to speak on behalf of its members in Sacramento and Washington, D.C. on the challenges that the region is facing. I also envision SCAG to provide the unequivocal support that less economically developed regions need to attract good-paying and high-quality jobs. To do so, SCAG needs to be involved in discussions with cities and counties on how to attract those economic development opportunities.

**6. What would you consider the strengths of SCAG? \*** The staff members at SCAG are knowledgeable and have provided much-needed technical support to member jurisdiction. SCAG is the only place where elected officials from all over southern California can gather and have meaningful discussions on issues. These discussions are opportunities for elected officials to share their experiences and pitfalls.

**7. What could SCAG improve on? \*** It is quite easy to recognize where the dissensions will be on any controversial issues. SCAG should work on meeting with possible dissenters early in the process and not focus only on getting a majority view. SCAG's credibility rests not on whether it can get a consensus on an issue; rather, member jurisdictions should leave each meeting with the satisfaction that they participated in the process even if the end result is not what they wanted.

Attach a File



[huang\\_aims\\_to\\_build\\_consensus\\_at\\_dais\\_the\\_orange\\_county\\_register.pdf](#) 2.15 MB · PDF

**Print Your Name** Peggy Huang

**Date** Monday, March 16, 2020

**I acknowledge** by checking this box, my printed name above is my signature for submitting this application.  
**that \***

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**Huang aims to build consensus at dais**

BY **ANDERS HOWMANN**  
 / STAFF WRITER

Published: Nov. 25, 2014 Updated: Nov. 26, 2014  
 2:02 p.m.



COURTESY OF PEGGY HUANG

**PEGGY HUANG**

**Age:** 44  
**Yorba Linda resident:** 11 years  
**Occupation:** Deputy attorney general  
**Family:** Married with two children  
 Top two vote-getters won.  
**Peggy Huang:** 8,253 votes, 24.3 percent  
**Tom Lindsey:** 8,081 votes, 23.8 percent  
**Jeffrey Decker:** 6,476 votes, 19.1 percent  
**Judy Murray:** 5,520 votes, 16.2 percent  
**Matt Palmer:** 3,087 votes, 9.1

With the recall and general elections in Yorba Linda's rear-view mirror, residents will see a new face behind the City Council dais.

Peggy Huang, 44, a state deputy attorney general, led the election race with more than 24percent of the vote.

Huang ran with Councilman Tom Lindsey, who retained his seat in a recall election held only a month before the general election. Lindsey came in behind Huang with 23.8 percent of the vote – holding onto his seat for the second time.

While Huang has not yet held a city political office, she's been actively involved in the Vista Del Verde homeowners group for the past two years. She organized a Neighborhood Watch after a series of burglaries struck the area and serves on the Vista Del Verde community's architectural control committee.

Huang will be seated at Tuesday's council meeting.

**Q. What do you hope to bring to the council when you start in December?**

**A.** Decorum, respect for the process. If you've been watching our City Council there's a lack of respect both ways and I'd like to bring back into the chambers what

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percent

**Paul Ambrus:** 2,575 votes, 7.6 percent

it's supposed to be: It's a place for the public. Having been a member of the public and sometimes being up there at the podium, I wasn't treated respectfully every time. But I also see the public not treating its council members with respect, either.

Then also, most importantly, what I hope to bring to council is the ability to build consensus. That's one of the things I've done in the past, when I've worked on controversial issues, worked with controversial members, which is always asking what we agree on and starting from there.

**Q. What are your thoughts on the Town Center project?**

**A.** I'm 100percent in support of it. I don't like driving, so I'm always looking for something close, and it really bothered me not to have a lot of places to go shop or eat in terms of variety and diversity. I think the Town Center will bring a lot of energy, publicity and bring in the diversity of shops and retail to the city. One of the things I hope will happen is an increase in sales tax revenues. And then, because the city owns that piece of property, it will be sold to private landowners and this allows for property revenue generation.

**Q. Some residents have looked forward to a new library and/or equestrian center being built in town. What are your thoughts on those projects?**

**A.** For the library, I was at the City Council meeting a couple weeks ago when they mentioned that the costs have increased substantially. Years ago, when I first got involved with building a new library, there was money to cover it. And it's astonishing now that we are looking at somewhere between a \$3million to \$9million bond as a possibility. So I am in support of the library, I'm one who goes there regularly. I believe that we need to look at what is contributing to that increase in cost and if the site that they chose is the most optimal site.

As to the equestrian center, I think that one is very controversial. I know what the equestrian community wants, but you have to take into consideration the neighboring residents that have to live near it; that's one. No. 2, I do oppose any public-private financing of it, and I point straight to the Black Gold Golf Course. That was probably the worst public-private enterprise that we entered. ...

The other thing that we need to ask is whether or not we need that stabling because, No. 1, the equestrian community, they guess-timate how many horses, but they refuse to allow the number of horses to be counted.

Most of the equestrians that I have met, they board their horses in their backyards.

**Q. High-density developments continue to be a contentious issue in town. How will you address these projects as they come before the council?**

**A.** One project at a time because I really believe in dialogue. I believe in negotiation, that all stakeholders must be at the table, none of this "my way and not your way." So when I look at these developments I would ask both sides: "Did you honestly have a good-faith dialogue?" Or is this kind of like a developer gives somebody two choices and you end up picking the lesser of two evils? Or a developer who bent over backward and the residents said, "No way."

**Q. What is your favorite ongoing project or program in the city?**

**A.** Definitely the Town Center. I am hysterically happy about it. The second one would



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**WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

be what the current council has been doing, which is attracting business to the city. That would be what I would continue.

And working with our small businesses. And so many of them actually live in our city, so I would like to continue to find ways to work with the Chamber of Commerce to promote our businesses so dollars stay in town.

Contact the writer: 714-704-3754 or [ahowmann@ocregister.com](mailto:ahowmann@ocregister.com)

Who looked best at the 2014 American Music Awards?

- I didn't watch the AMAs
- Kendall Jenner
- Khloe Kardashian
- Kylie Jenner

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**From:** SCAG <no-reply@wufoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 20, 2020 4:15 PM  
**To:** Tess Rey-Chaput  
**Subject:** Application for 2020-2021 SCAG Officer Position [#8]

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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**Categories:** YES

**I acknowledge that \*** I have read the SCAG Bylaws, Article V, Section C, subsection 1-5 as described above; and meet the minimum eligibility requirements.

**Name \*** Linda Parks

**Name of your SCAG Member County, City or County Transportation Commission \*** Ventura County

**Phone Number** (805) 214-2510

**Email \*** [Linda.Parks@ventura.org](mailto:Linda.Parks@ventura.org)

**Application for Officer Position \*** 2nd Vice President

**Terms of Service completed on SCAG Regional Council, a minimum of one full-term (i.e. a term equates to two** 8 terms

years on the  
Regional  
Council at  
time of  
application) \*

Total length of 17 years  
SCAG service  
(indicate  
number of  
years of  
service) \*

When does the 12/2022  
term of your  
local elected  
position  
expire? \*

Would term Yes  
limits prevent  
you from  
maintaining  
your local  
elected  
position? \*

Positions held Audit Committee, Bylaws and Resolution Committee, Nominating Committee, Executive Administration  
at SCAG \* Committee and member of TC, EEC (Chair and Vice Chair), CEHD, and Regional Council and General  
Assembly, Represented SCAG on State RTAC Committee

1. Why do you I want to do what I can for an organization that I admire and that has done so much for our region, and  
wish to serve for me professionally.  
as a SCAG  
Officer? \*

2. As an I will contribute my experience as a County Supervisor and past Mayor to help SCAG continue to be vital  
Officer, what resource to local governments in Southern California.  
would you

**contribute to  
SCAG? \***

**(A) In addition** Yes, I will prioritize being there for SCAG.

**to attending  
regular and  
special  
meetings of  
SCAG's  
Regional  
Council, will  
you be able to  
attend other  
meetings and  
functions of  
SCAG, if  
requested? \***

**(B) What  
professional  
or personal  
constraints on  
your time or  
service that  
you  
anticipate? \*** I do not have outside employment other than the Board of Supervisors and have no personal constraints.

**4. What are  
your values  
and skills that  
you could  
bring to SCAG  
as an Officer?** 1) Forging good relationships including with other leaders, 2) sound understanding of government and good planning (Masters in Urban Planning, past Transportation Planner), past Mayor, Councilmember and Planning Commissioner, Chaired Ventura County Transportation Commission, Air Pollution Control District, Local Agency Formation Commission, Regional Energy Alliance, Vice Chair Clean Power Alliance, and California State University Channel Islands Site Authority.

\*

**5. What is your vision for the future of SCAG and what do you believe needs to be done to accomplish this vision? \***

My vision for SCAG is to have an active and inspired membership that works together with expert and helpful staff and our public/private partners to make meaningful and lasting benefits for our region by improving transportation,

furthering good planning principles, and ensuring healthy, resilient communities, safe streets and neighborhoods.

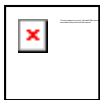
To accomplish this vision, look at ways to improve effectiveness to achieve further success. Working each year to accomplish clearly stated goals will make SCAG better understood to those who don't currently know what SCAG does, and focus our resources to effectuate successful outcomes.

**6. What would you consider the strengths of SCAG? \*** Over the last decade SCAG has increased SCAG's influence in the region. Good working relationships with State and Federal agencies and legislative leaders goes a long way towards our success. Through grants for projects and planning, the region has benefited from SCAG funding for urban renewal projects and transportation infrastructure. Also, Staff has done a great job bringing pertinent presentations that educate and prepare members for understanding SCAG issues, and make us better informed when we go back to our respective communities.

**7. What could SCAG improve on? \*** Work for more multi-benefits in grants and projects, for example job training, investment in lower income and disadvantaged communities, energy conservation, safety, reduced emissions, affordable housing. Emphasize healthy cities and de-emphasize sprawl development.

Heighten regional image: become better known as a local resource and associated with positive regional projects like popular events, safe bike paths, non-polluting transit vehicles, ending gridlock, partnering with agencies on their positive initiatives.

Attach a File



[lindaparks.pdf](#) 6.61 MB · PDF

**Print Your Name** Linda Parks

**Date** Friday, March 20, 2020

**I acknowledge that \*** by checking this box, my printed name above is my signature for submitting this application.

SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCATE



NIK BLASKOVICH PHOTO

Ventura County Second District Supervisor Linda Parks was recognized in 2019 by the SBA for her community relations work after Ventura County endured wildfires and a mass shooting.

*SBA honors Supervisor Parks for role in Ventura recovery*



Fullscreen

## Scenes from Crime Victims' Rights Week ceremony

County Supervisor Linda Parks accepts an award from District Attorney Greg Totten during the annual ceremony marking National Crime Victims Rights Week at the Ventura County Government Center. Parks was recognized for her work helping Borderline shooting victims.

JUAN CARLO/THE STAR

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AL SEIB Los Angeles Times

h the rubble of a friend's home after the Woolsey fire burned the Seminole Springs mobile home park.

## anking prevention?

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more than 80 dead. More than 18,000 structures are gone.

Last year's wine country blazes swept across parts of eight counties and incinerated nearly 9,000 buildings.

Such staggering losses, experts

## Grief rattles sleepy suburb

As Thousand Oaks mourns, county supervisor wonders how city will heal.

BY SOUMYA KARLAMANGLA

Linda Parks navigates her car up a winding street and sighs as she points out where fire has scorched the hillsides, now bald and black.

She usually finds solace in running and cycling in these mountains — “they’re kind of like my churches,” she says, gazing at them. But she quickly focuses her attention back on the road; there is no time to dwell today.

Parks, a Ventura County supervisor, is meeting with residents of Bell Canyon, an affluent community north of Calabasas where 36 homes were destroyed in a recent blaze. Then, she has to attend a funeral for a 23-year-old killed in the mass shooting in Thousand Oaks. The commitments are just an hour apart, across town.

It's a Saturday, but it's hectic, like all the days since Nov. 8, when a massacre at a bar was followed by devastating fires. When Thousand Oaks, the biggest city in the district Parks has represented for more than 15 years, became a household name. When crisis came all



**HEALTHCARE OPTION**—Rob Mahan, CEO of Exer Urgent Care, speaks during the grand opening of the Exer Urgent Care in Westlake on April 24.

ost and with less waiting,” said Rob Mahan, CEO of Exer.

Other Exer locations are in Newbury Park, Calabasas, Pasadena, Northridge, Beverly Hills, Sherman Oaks, Redondo Beach, Manhattan Beach, Stevenson Ranch and Canyon Country.

The company plans to open several more facilities in Los Angeles this year. A center in La Cañada Flintridge will open soon.

For more information, go to [ExerUrgentCare.com](http://ExerUrgentCare.com).



RICHARD GILLARD/Acorn Newspapers  
 photos at the newly opened Exer Urgent Care, Ste. 100.



Courtesy photo

**RECOGNITION**—Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks accepts a Phoenix Award from representatives of the U.S. Small Business Administration on May 5 in Washington, D.C.

## Local supervisor receives national honor

### ■ Parks given SBA's Phoenix Award

Longtime Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks was in the nation's capital this week to accept an honor from the U.S. Small Business Administration for her work following the Woolsey fire.

The federal agency gave Parks, a Thousand Oaks resident, its 2019 National Small Business Week Phoenix Award, a title it bestows on business owners, public officials and volunteers who display “selflessness, ingenuity and tenacity in the aftermath of a disaster, while contributing to the rebuilding of their communities,” according to a news release.

On Sunday, Parks tweeted that the honor was “very hum-

bling, and a reflection of how we as a community rise up from the ashes.”

In the release, the SBA credits the supervisor for her actions in the wake of the November fire, which burned 97,000 acres and forced 295,000 residents—including Parks—from their homes.

“Parks cleared out her office and loaned it to county officials for their use as a Victims Assistance Center,” the SBA said. “She coordinated several fire recovery

town hall meetings for displaced residents. In addition to attending fire briefings with the California governor's office, the Department of the Interior and FEMA, Parks held numerous press conferences urging residents to follow evacuation and safety orders.”

The Phoenix Awards were presented to four people in Washington, D.C., in a special ceremony held May 5 to kick off National Small Business Week.

—Acorn staff report



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## Task force begins tackling ways to prevent mass shootings

[Kathleen Wilson](#), Ventura County Star Published 11:05 p.m. PT March 22, 2019 | Updated 3:29 p.m. PT March 26, 2019

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Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks, right, is backing a task force that would look for gaps in the system to protect the public and provide mental health care to prevent another mass shooting. (Photo: ANTHONY PLASCENCIA/THE STAR)

A task force formed to prevent mass shootings in the wake of the Borderline attack last year is looking at how to bolster public safety and add treatment options, potentially with recommendations on how to keep guns out of the hands of dangerous people.

Called the Task Force on Mental Health & Safety, the panel was established by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors after the killings of 12 victims last November at the Borderline Bar and Grill in Thousand Oaks. The gunman, 28-year-old Ian David Long of Newbury Park, also died from a self-inflicted shot to the head.

Although the criminal investigations of the shootings are expected to take many more months, county officials say the panel can look for gaps in the systems in place for protecting the public and providing mental health care in the meantime.

### **MORE ON THE THOUSAND OAKS SHOOTING:**

- [Hundreds mourn victims of Thousand Oaks shooting \(/story/news/courts/2018/11/08/hundreds-mourn-victims-thousand-oaks-shooting-community-vigils/1931302002/\)](#)
- [Borderline victim's family still wants gun control instead of thoughts and prayers \(/story/news/local/2019/01/19/borderline-shooting-victims-family-wants-gun-control-not-prayers/2539480002/\)](#)

# Work project starts to take root



Interim nursery manager Dennis Perry takes measurements on property that will become the Growing Works nursery on Lewis Road. The project will provide jobs for people with mental illness. PHOTOS BY CHUCK KIRMAN/THE STAR

## Camarillo nonprofit nursery will provide jobs for people with mental illness, give employees support, therapy

**Claudia Boyd-Barrett**  
Special to Ventura County Star  
USA TODAY NETWORK

A nine-acre vacant plot in Camarillo is slated to become a plant nursery and demonstration garden as part of a county-led effort to provide jobs for people with mental illness.

The Growing Works Nursery and Demonstration Gardens will be on county-owned land at 1722 S. Lewis Road in Camarillo, close to existing housing for the mentally ill. The nursery is expected to employ 70 to 100 people a year. Employees will receive job training, therapy and ultimately assistance with transitioning into other horticulture-related employment.

See JOBS, Page 10A



County Supervisor Linda Parks says she came up with the idea after learning about a similar program in San Luis Obispo County that has been running since 1984.

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## New Kanan bus shuttle ready to serve community

*August 29, 2013*

By Sylvie Belmond  
belmond@theacorn.com



ON A ROLL—Darren Kettle, Ventura County Transportation Commission executive director, introduces the new Kanan bus shuttle with Linda Parks, Ventura County supervisor.

A new shuttle bus for residents of Agoura Hills and Oak Park is on the move.

The Kanan Shuttle, featuring two 24-passenger shuttle buses with a logo of a leaping mountain lion on the side, will loop back and forth between the 101 Freeway in Agoura and Lindero Canyon Road in Oak Park.

The buses provide a safe and comfortable transit alternative for Oak Park residents of all ages, said officials at a ribboncutting ceremony Monday at Mae Boyer Park.

Ventura County Supervisor championed the service with the help of the Ventura County Public Works Agency, the City of Agoura Hills and First Transit bus company.

All rides are free until November.

The shuttle operates Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., running every 15 minutes during school drop-off and pickup times, and every 30 minutes the rest of the day. There are 14 stops along the way.