MAY 2, 2023

SPRING 2023
CITY COMMISSIONER APPOINTMENTS

MAYOR REX RICHARDSON
FROM THE 29TH MAYOR OF LONG BEACH

Dear Long Beach City Commissioners,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I would like to thank you for your interest in public service and your commitment to Long Beach.

Serving on a city commission is one of the most important ways that local residents can participate in our democratic process. By serving, you are ensuring that the voices of residents are at the table and advising on important matters that shape the course for our future.

The city of Long Beach is a rich cultural and community tapestry and home to many vibrant and diverse neighborhoods. Each of these communities deserves to have a voice in our collective decision-making.

For that reason, I am proud that, in the first 100 days of our new administration, we delivered important legislation that removed barriers historically preventing residents from participating on city commissions. Now, any resident can serve on a city commission, no matter their income level or documentation status. I believe that our community is stronger when everyone has an opportunity to participate.

Thank you again for answering the call to serve as a city commissioner. We look forward to working with all of you to ensure that our entire city has an opportunity to thrive!

Sincerely,

The 29th Mayor of Long Beach
EDUARDO “EDDIE” ANGELES  
*Long Beach Transit Board*

Eduardo (“Eddie”) Angeles currently serves as the Director of State and Local Government Affairs for American Airlines in the Western Pacific States, which includes California, Oregon, Washington State, Alaska, and the Hawaiian Islands. Prior to this position, Eddie was the Managing Director and Senior Counsel of the Los Angeles Office of Government and Regulatory Affairs practice group. Eddie also served as a Senior Assistant City Attorney for the Los Angeles City Attorney’s Office assigned to the Los Angeles World Airports (“LAWA”) Legal Division providing in-house legal services to LAWA. Prior to his LAWA position, Eddie served as a Presidential Appointee as the Federal Aviation Administration’s Associate Administrator for Airports.

Eddie earned his undergraduate degree from the University of California at Santa Barbara and his law degree from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law.

PHYLLIS ARIAS  
*Airport Advisory Commission*

Phyllis O. Arias completes two terms as a member of the Civil Service Commission where, as President, she led the Commission through the process of recruiting and selecting the current Executive Director. During her tenure, the Commission weathered several challenges, including the pandemic, and emerged as a strong and tireless team, dedicated passionately to the mission of Civil Service and to serving the City and its community.

Ms. Arias is a retired educator and 52-year-plus resident of Long Beach. Ms. Arias retired from Long Beach City College after serving more than 24 years as a faculty member. Ms. Arias was a member and chair or co-chair of many of the college’s most important institutional planning and governance committees. Before beginning her career at LBCC, Ms. Arias taught in the Long Beach Unified School District, and was the Grantee director of the Long Beach Head Start program. Ms. Arias earned her bachelor’s degree at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and her M.A. Ed. at Claremont Graduate University. Ms. Arias is a recipient of LBCC’s Outstanding Colleague Award, the Soroptimist International of Long Beach Woman of Distinction Award for Education, and the Centro CHA Nuestra Imagen Excellence in Education Award.
AVIS ATKINS
Marine Advisory Commission

Avis Atkins’ story is a shining example of how education can change lives. Despite facing numerous hardships, including homelessness and growing up in a single-parent household with four siblings, Avis was taught by her disabled veteran-father the value of education. This lesson set her on a path to success and advocacy that has transformed not only her life but also the lives of others.

For the past decade, Avis has been a dedicated advocate working with organizations such as The Greenlining Institute, the Urban League of Young Professionals, Leadership Long Beach, and Mothers Against Drunk Driving to ensure that all people have access to the resources they need to improve their life outcomes. Avis graduated from Millikan High School as an Advanced Placement Scholar and was admitted to CSULB through the Long Beach Promise. She ultimately graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology, Sociology, and Human Development. She pursued her graduate studies at Harvard University, receiving a Master’s degree in both Education Policy and Business Administration.

PETER BOSTIC
Parks and Recreation Commission

Growing up, Peter was lucky to have an active park across the street from his elementary school offering a host of athletic, recreation and enrichment activities. Queen Anne Park was his home away from home. Bostic started his YMCA career with the YMCA of Metropolitan Los Angeles, implementing outreach fitness programs at Martin Luther King Hospital, the Watts Health Foundation and 14 elementary schools. After building and opening the Weingart Wellness and Aquatic Center in South L.A., Peter went on to serve with the San Francisco and Orange County YMCA’s.

Peter made the transition to assist California Community College students by serving as the Foundation Director at Santa Ana College, Solano College, and most recently Los Angeles Harbor College. Along his 40-year non-profit management journey, he most enjoyed serving as Executive Director of the Long Beach Public Library Foundation and Leadership Long Beach. Peter and his wife Hiedy have lived in Long Beach since 1996 and have two children, Anthony, and Ashleigh.
HAKIM CHAMBERS  
*Long Beach Community Investment Network*

Hakim possesses 24+ years of experience in the strategic planning, program management, and implementation of a variety of different project types (i.e., higher education, public, private, charter, K-12, university housing, student centers, athletic and recreational facilities, public parks, emergency operations centers, specialty spaces, and libraries) throughout the country. Currently, he serves as the Program Director for Long Beach City College. Most recently, he was the Deputy Program Director for Los Angeles Community College District. In previous roles, he was instrumental in supporting the ongoing management of the District of Columbia Public Schools’ $3.7B construction and modernization program and managed the Detroit Public Schools $505M Bond Program.

Hakim is a proud family man and resident of Long Beach. He believes he is teaching both of his young girls about the importance of public service and giving back. He wants his children to grow up in a City with strong values and an administration that will uphold those values.

PAM CHOTISWATDI  
*Homeless Services Advisory Commission*

Pam Chotiswatdi is a 20-year-Long Beach resident. She lives in District Two in the Zaferia neighborhood with her partner, Long Beach-born Chris Mancini, and their menagerie of rescued cats and dogs. She is the co-founder of a budding non-profit, Peer Education Community Center, which brings community support, life-skills, and alternative approaches to community education like harm reduction and collaboration through community activism.

She holds experience as an OB/GYN medical assistant, mortuary director, learning-differences English tutor, project manager, operations director, publishing editor, community volunteer, educator, and writer. She is a life-long student with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature from California State University, Long Beach, a Master of Public Health degree in Health Education from National University, and various certificates. Pam is a consultant at her own small business, Offbeat Olio, and works with the Long Beach Collective Association leading cannabis curriculum at Long Beach City College. She is also on the Board of Directors for the Long Beach Community Table.
MARK CHRISTOFFELS
Airport Advisory Commission

Mark is a Registered Civil Engineer and Land Surveyor with over 40 years of experience managing capital improvement programs and projects primarily as the City Engineer and Public Works Director for several cities in both Los Angeles and Orange Counties, including 11 years as City Engineer for the City of Long Beach. Mark served as the San Gabriel Valley Council of Government Joint Power Authority’s CEO/Chief Engineer responsible for the $420 million SR 57/SR 60 Project as well as the $1.8 billion Alameda Corridor East program. Mark was inducted into UCI’s Engineering Hall of Fame in 2017.

Mark has served the last 11 years on the Planning Commission for the City of Long Beach and is the Chair of the Board of Directors for the Rancho Los Alamitos Foundation. He sits on the Board for the Operation Jumpstart Program in Long Beach and on an Advisory Board for CSULB. Mark is currently employed as an associate vice president with HDR Inc, a national engineering firm of over 11,000 employees. Mark has a BS in Civil Engineering from UCI and an MBA from Pepperdine University.

PAULA CLARK
Board of Health and Human Services

Ms. Paula Ann Clark has been a Long Beach Resident for fifteen years. Paula received her Associates of Science Nursing degree at Cypress College, her Bachelor’s of Science Nursing at California State University Dominguez Hills, and her Master’s of Science Nursing with a concentration in Anesthesia from California State University Fullerton.

She is a single mom who raised three productive and intelligent young women. She is a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) who works for the Long Beach Tibor Rubin Veteran’s Affairs Medical Center (VA) and as a Chief CRNA at the Digestive Care Consultants (DCC). Paula Clark has been an active part of Teenshop, Inc. where she received the Mother of Distinction Award, the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority/Epsilon Eta Omega Chapter, and founder of Compassion for Skid Row Nonprofit Nurse Anesthetist. Paula has three lovely and intelligent daughters-Kelci, Keli,and Kaela who are active members of the Long Beach community and are working on their university degrees.
MICHAEL CLEMSON  
Planning Commission

Michael Clemson has over 15 years of experience in the sustainability, building and transportation fields. He is committed to helping Long Beach build a better city while meeting its sustainability goals. Michael Clemson currently serves on the Board of Directors for Long Beach Transit. He has a passion for transportation, is an avid cyclist and transit rider, and he believes that one of the critical things that makes a city great is having diverse transit options, including public and active transportation.

In his role as the Carbon Reduction Manager for the California State University Office of the Chancellor, Michael works directly to promote energy efficiency and sustainability.

ROLANDO CRUZ  
Transaction and Use Tax Citizens’ Advisory Committee

Rolando has lived in Long Beach since 1994 and brings more than 30+ years of management, working in finance, fleet maintenance, facilities at Long Beach Transit, Chief Operation Officer of the City of Santa Monica Big Blue Bus and retired in 2023 from Culver City as the Chief Transportation Officer. He has served on several national task forces in public transportation, was active and chaired multiple committees in the American Public Transportation Association and California Transit Association and was a board member and CFO for the California Transit Training Consortium.

Rolando has served in the community on the boards of the Bluff Park Neighborhood Association, PTA, and Leadership Long Beach, serving two years as President of Leadership Long Beach in 2013-2015. Rolando is a CPA and holds a M.B.A. and a Bachelor’s in accounting from the University of Texas.
ROBERT EMIGH  
*Transaction and Use Tax Citizens’ Advisory Committee*

Dr. Robert Emigh is a long-time Professional and Community Volunteer in Long Beach. He opened Emigh Dental Care in 1972 and the dental practice has been serving Long Beach families for more than 30 years. He was Chairman of the Board for the California Dental Association and delegate for the American Dental Association and was honored by the American College of Dentistry and International College of Dentistry. He retired in 2018 and the office is now run by his sons Pat and Todd.

Robert has been very active in the Long Beach Community for more than 20 years. He has been on the Board for Campfire USA – Long Beach Chapter since 2002 and has served as Board Chair since 2017. He is a proud member of the Leadership Long Beach Class of 2003, served two terms on the Board of Directors and now serves on the Honorary Board. Bob has also served both St. Mary’s and Memorial Medical Center and has volunteered for Steel Magnolias Mens Alliance. He lives in Long Beach with his wife Anne and they are enjoying the many activities of their 7 grandkids.

JOEN GARNICA  
*Civil Service Commission*

Joen Garnica is a life-long Long Beach resident, mom to two sets of twins (one set of humans and one set of doggies), wife, business owner, and community leader. The act of service, learned at a young age from her mom, has been a core value in her leadership.

As an adult, Joen has served her community in myriad ways. From bringing people together to reinvigorate her neighborhood association as President to being a two-term President on the Civil Service Commission. Joen is a 20 year Long Beach businesses owner of Garnica Interiors, a commercial and residential interior design firm. For the past two decades, her leadership includes the areas of early childhood education, business, neighborhood associations, youth, higher education, charitable organizations, the arts, and more. Her current service includes serving on the Board of Governors for the LBCC foundation, the Board of Directors for YMCA of Greater Long Beach, and serves on the Civil Service Commission for the City of Long Beach.
ROBYN GORDON-PETERSON
Civil Service Commission

Ms. Robyn Gordon-Peterson, a long-term resident of Long Beach, graduated from Long Beach Poly High School, she received an associate degree from Long Beach City College, bachelor’s degree from Webster University and her master’s degree from Cal State University, Dominguez Hills. She retired from Long Beach Transit after 25 years of service, her last position as the company’s Chief Operating Officer.

She remains active in the community currently serving on the following boards: LBCC Foundation Board of Governors, Helping Homeless Students, Care Closet LBC, Precious Lamb Preschool, Long Beach Day Nursery, HB, 4Girls Organization and the Rotary Club of Long Beach. Robyn is a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, and the NAACP. She serves as Chair of the LBCC Personnel Commission and is the Trustee's appointee. She lives in Long Beach with her husband Eric, an LBCC and CSULB graduate, parents to eight children with the youngest two daughters, Genevieve and Angelique remaining at home while attending LBCC. The family has been taken over by Koa and Kona, two Maltese dogs who joined the family in March 2022.

NATALIE HERNANDEZ
Port of LB Community Grants Advisory Committee

Natalie Hernandez is a specialist in environmental policy and community planning. She currently works at a local nonprofit, Climate Resolve. In her role as Director of Resilience & Organizational Strategy, she has co-authored climate change policy and research reports, led community outreach to prepare residents for the effects of heat waves, and provided technical expertise on various grant programs. Natalie has a strong passion for environmental justice and climate equity, which she attributes to growing up in various parts of Long Beach and studying the intersection of land use and public health.

Natalie holds a Master of Urban Planning degree from USC and a BA in Urban Studies and Spanish from Loyola Marymount University. Her experience includes positions at the California Natural Resources Agency, California Air Resources Board, and USC Equity Research Institute. She is a proud District 9 North Long Beach resident where she lives with her partner and two puppies.
DAVIDA HOPKINS-PARHAM
*Port of LB Community Grants Advisory Committee*

Davida Hopkins-Parham is a retired educator, whose professional career in higher education spans more than three decades. A native of New Jersey and a graduate of Douglass College, the former women’s college at Rutgers University, at an early age, Davida’s parents insured her knowledge of the history and struggle for equality, civil and voting rights for generations of Black, Indigenous, people of color, and women in America.

Davida’s higher education experience includes the University of Pennsylvania (PENN), California State Dominguez Hills, Cal State Fullerton, and the University of California, Irvine. The proud mother of two beautiful, talented adult daughters, and the spouse and life-long partner of Cal State Dominguez Hills President, Thomas Parham, Davida emerged from “retirement” five years ago, and has been engaged with CSUDH students, faculty, staff, and alumni in myriad ways that support student success and the advancement of the university. As a Long Beach resident, she is now “ready to serve” this beautiful and progressive City.

JAN HOWER
*Transaction and Use Tax Citizen’s Advisory Committee*

Jan B. Hower is the President of Long Beach Camerata Singers. She was raised just outside of New York City and participated in choral, orchestral and theater activities throughout high school. She moved to California in 1970, earning a degree in Business Administration from California State University, Fullerton. She launched her accounting career at McDonnell Douglas, later moving to Eastman Office Products.

After retiring from the corporate world, Jan pursued her love of music by enrolling in the academic music program at Long Beach City College, a path that led her to Long Beach Camerata Singers. She first served as the organization’s Treasurer, and was elected President in 2014. Ms Hower has worked with three artistic directors during her tenure at LBCS, advancing the organization from a modest profile as a community choir to its current position as the primary choral organization serving the Long Beach area. In the last 5 years, she turned her attention to building the education programs at LBCS and Peace4Youth, serving LBUSD Middle school students.
GORDANA KAJER  
*Marine Advisory Commission*

Gordana has lived in Long Beach since 1988 in Belmont Heights and is self-employed as an import/export consultant. She learned early, as a new property owner, that Long Beach is defined by neighborhoods. And recognized over time that her neighborhood really relied on residents who did important work—identifying local issues, educating residents, making change—by volunteering with their time, and contributing on issues with their skills and knowledge. She believes that great things get done with neighborhood volunteers and that getting involved is a great way to meet incredible people who live near you.

Over the past 25 years, she has had the great honor—and pleasure—of volunteering with the Long Beach Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation, the Belmont Heights Community Association, the Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust, and as a member of the City of Long Beach Sustainable City Commission. She looks forward to many more years of volunteering in her neighborhood.

CHERYL KOLL  
*Equity and Human Relations Commission*

Cheryl is a Long Beach resident of 10 years. Originally from the east coast, she forged a successful career as an entertainment marketing executive in California. Focusing on family brands, Cheryl crafted promotional campaigns for companies like Disney, DreamWorks, and Mattel.

Discovering Long Beach's vibrant culture and community, Cheryl found a new path. She moved to Long Beach and launched a marketing business. As her work progressed, she increasingly integrated her passion for Environmental Sustainability and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiatives.

Cheryl believes that storytelling and engaging content have the power to drive business success and shape culture via positive change. She is committed to helping her clients grow and leveraging her expertise to contribute to a more just and equitable society.
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BONNIE LOWENTHAL
Harbor Commission

Bonnie Lowenthal is Secretary of the Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners, elected to the post in July 2022 by her colleagues on the five-member Board. Named to the Commission in July 2017, she has served as President, Vice President and Secretary. She brings a broad history of public service and deep experience in the City of Long Beach, formerly serving as a state Assemblymember, Long Beach City Councilmember, Vice Mayor, and member of the Long Beach Unified School District Board.

Ms. Lowenthal has spent most of her life in Long Beach, her adopted hometown, since attending graduate school at California State University, Long Beach. In addition to her political career, she has served the community as a licensed family counselor, mental health consultant, educator and commissioner to various city commissions. Her pre-political work is rooted in the local Cambodian community and in service to the Latino community. Bonnie earned a Bachelor of Science in Sociology from the University of Wisconsin and a Master’s of Science in Community and Clinical Psychology from California State University, Long Beach.

LAUREN LYONS
Technology and Innovation Commission

Lauren is a space engineer, executive, strategy consultant, and stealth startup founder. She recently served as the Chief Operating Officer of Firefly Aerospace, and before that, worked in engineering leadership on Blue Origin’s lunar lander and space station programs. Before Blue, she was a senior engineer at SpaceX where she worked on Dragon, Starlink, and Falcon 9 while moonlighting as host for the launch webcasts, including the Emmy Award-winning Demo 1.

She currently serves as an advisor for space and climate technology startups, is a member of the XPRIZE Space Domain Brain Trust, and a mentor for the Creative Destruction Lab and the Patti Grace Smith Fellowship. She earned her bachelor’s degree from Princeton University in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering with certificates in Engineering Biology and Robotics & Intelligent Systems. Her master’s degree is in Business & Government Policy from the Harvard John F. Kennedy School of Government.
Kenneth Osborn  
**Veterans Affairs Commission**

Ken Osborn was born in Santa Monica and has lived in Long Beach for 14 years. He is a former leader in the Grant and Houghton Park neighborhood associations where he is still actively involved. Ken was also a member of the Atwater Village Neighborhood Council for 5 years, 3 as President. He served as a national board member of the American Veterans for Equal Rights. During his military service, he was a litigant in the landmark case Able V US that challenged the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy. Ken’s career includes 20 years in sales, 10 in construction management and 10 as a Realtor.

Ken joined the Marine Corps Reserve in 1983 and served for 2 years, attaining the rank of Corporal. He then transferred to the Army National Guard in preparation for his commissioning as a Second Lieutenant in the Army Reserve. There, he held several positions, ending as a Captain commanding the Headquarters Commander of the 155th S&S Battalion in South El Monte, Ca. He served 16 years and earned 1 Army service medal and 3 Army Commendation Medals, among others.

Jose Osuna  
**Civil Service Commission**

Jose Osuna has been a leading voice in the fight for justice for those that have experienced incarceration for well over a decade. His journey began at Homeboy Industries, the world’s largest gang rehab program, under the leadership of Father Gregory Boyle. Having experienced over 13 years of incarceration himself, Jose entered the Homeboy Industries program as a participant and eventually became their Director of External Affairs. He is also an advocate for crime survivors’ rights, having lost his son, Moises, to gun violence in 2017. Jose has been asked to speak on his experiences throughout the country, including at The White House and the U.S. Congress.

Jose is currently the Director of External Affairs for Brilliant Corners, a statewide housing organization that focuses on the development of permanent supportive housing for special needs communities, including those that have experienced incarceration. Jose is a member of the L.A. County Public Safety Realignment Team, representing the 4th District for Supervisor Janice Hahn. He is also a member of the Long Beach City Prosecutor’s Multi-Cultural Advisory Commission.
MARCO PIZZO
*Cultural Heritage Commission*

Marco Pizzo has been an active, proud Long Beach resident for over 23 years. A graduate with honors in Environmental Design from the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California, Marco has produced noteworthy residential and commercial design and architectural projects of various styles and periods for over 30 years. His motto is “creative concepts, fresh solutions.” He maintains his credentials as a California Certified Interior Designer and has a small business interior design studio practice in Long Beach established in 2003.

Marco has been a board officer in the 501(c)(3) nonprofit Bluff Park Neighborhood Association since 2017. Beginning in 2014, he has served as the co-lead for the Bluff Park Historic Lamppost Project, a collaborative community based interactive partnership with the City, entering its third phase this year. He and the resident group he helped lead received a Long Beach Heritage Preservation Award for the 2013 Paloma Centennial Celebration which recognized multi-generational homes turning 100 years old.

DEVENEY PULA
*Port of LB Community Grants Advisory Committee*

Deveney Pula is a Southern California native who is deeply rooted in Long Beach. In 2013, she completed her studies at Cornell University and began her professional journey managing and working with construction trade associations. Throughout her career, Deveney has demonstrated remarkable leadership abilities and strategic planning skills, with a focus on developing impactful initiatives that empower, transform, and elevate organizations. Deveney looks forward to serving and enhancing our community as she becomes part of the esteemed Port of Long Beach Grants Advisory Committee.

Beyond her professional pursuits, Deveney enjoys spending her leisure time outdoors, playing beach volleyball, exploring new restaurants, and unwinding with competitive board game nights with her loved ones.
RANDY RAWLINGS  
*Long Beach Transit Board*

Randy Rawlings is a social entrepreneur from Long Beach with leadership experience in both the public and private sector. He holds a hybrid degree in engineering and business from ASU, specializing in the process of developing and scaling socially-oriented startups. From his time with the Office of Mayor Robert Garcia, to his roles with Virgin Orbit and the aerospace industry, he has a strong background in business development, community impact and strategic partnerships.

As a transit advocate, he believes that equitable and accessible transportation is essential to our community and a critical part of building a sustainable and prosperous future with opportunity for everyone. He is deeply committed to the LBT’s mission and looks forward to continuing to serve the community.

ALEXANDER RED EAGLE  
*Board of Health and Human Services*

Dr. Alexander Red Eagle, MD, Ph.D., was raised in North Long Beach. He graduated from Poly High School in 1998. He obtained a bachelor’s degree in Biochemistry at UCLA in 2003. He then obtained his Medical Degree and Ph.D. in Genetics from Stanford School of Medicine in 2012. He completed his residency training in Internal Medicine from Stanford in 2015. He returned to Long Beach to serve as an internal medicine physician at the Tibor Rubin VA Healthcare System in Long Beach as a hospitalist. He became the Section Chief of Hospital Medicine at that VA in 2020. During this time he helped lead inpatient medicine during the COVID pandemic. Dr. Red Eagle is involved in medical education as an assistant professor of medicine at UC Irvine School of Medicine and as an associate professor of medicine at Charles Drew University School of Medicine.

He is proud to be the son of a Costa Rican immigrant mother and American Indian Father. Dr. Red Eagle lives in Long Beach with his wife and three children and two dogs. He enjoys daily exercise to stay healthy and helping with his children’s various sports teams in Long Beach. He is excited to help contribute to improving healthcare in the City of Long Beach.
KEVIN SCOTT  
*Utilities Commission*

Kevin is an executive board member and Secretary/Treasurer of the Long Beach Firefighters Association. As a CPA and chief financial officer, he brings a unique perspective on financial reporting and accounting expertise to the Utilities Commission, with over three decades of experience in private industry, government, and non-profit sectors.

Kevin is active in the community and local politics. He’s been a resident, homeowner, small business owner, and firefighter in the City of Long Beach since 2004. He is a husband and father of two grown children. Finally, as a member of the LGBTQ+ community, he possesses a unique perspective that ultimately will benefit the community.

MARY SIMMONS  
*Homeless Services Advisory Commission*

Mary Simmons is a community leader that has dedicated herself to serving the city of Long Beach for over two decades. Her passion and determination to make a difference led to the formation of the AOC7 Neighborhood Organization, which has achieved remarkable accomplishments. Some of which include: planting four hundred trees, providing forty thousand books to children, feeding thousands of families during the pandemic, supporting the Long Beach Health Department with outreach, vaccine clinic support and helping to count our community during the 2020 US Census.

Mary’s leadership has been recognized with numerous awards, including the 2021 California NonProfit of the Year Award, which is a testament to the impact that AOC7 has had on the community. Her involvement in various organizations and committees, such as the Long Beach Covid Task Force and the Long Beach Center for Economic Inclusion Food Network, Cambodia Town Thrives Zone In: City Core Advisory Committee shows her commitment to making a positive difference in people’s lives.

Mary’s example of leadership is a reminder of the importance of community involvement and the power of individuals to create positive change. We can all learn from her dedication and passion for making a difference in the world.
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DAVID SUTTON
Long Beach Transit Board

During his 31 years at Metro, David's accomplishments include welcoming 26 LA transit agencies to TAP, converting Metro's paper pass program to TAP, developing special group pass programs for 13 universities and colleges and 440 businesses, winning numerous ACE, Adwheel and Telly awards, producing Transit 2000, a half hour infomercial series devoted to transportation issues that aired on KABC-TV, creating partnerships with major sports teams and corporations to promote rail openings, transit safety and anti-graffiti, developing the marketing campaign that introduced EZ transit pass, creating the TAP mobile app for android and Apple phones and preparing the launch of fare capping first for Metro and later for the region.

David is a product of Long Beach public schools, attending Bixby, Minnie Gant and Millikan. He earned a Master’s in Public Administration from California State University, Long Beach. He resides in the city with his wife. He has three sons, two daughters in-law and five of the most adorable grandkids in the world!

TUNUA THRASH-NTUK
Long Beach Transit Board

Tunua Thrash-Ntuk is the Executive Director of The Center by Lendistry. She is a seasoned community and economic development practitioner of more than 15 years. She has already led a number of important urban initiatives in Los Angeles focused on affordable housing and commercial development and transit-oriented projects. Prior to joining The Center, Tunua served as Executive Director of LISC-Los Angeles and West Angeles Community Development Corporation.

She serves as a board member or advisory board member to many entities, including Federal Home Loan Bank San Francisco’s Affordable Housing Council, Housing California, City of LA Measure HHH Citizens Oversight Commission, Southern California Edison’s Consumer Advisory Panel, Greenlining Institute, Union Bank’s Community Advisory Board, Frontier Communications Community Advisory Board and the Los Angeles Development Fund. Tunua is a graduate of Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), where she earned her Master’s in City Planning, and of UC Berkeley where she received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies.
MICHHELLLE WARE  
*Planning Commission*

Michele Ware has over 25 years of experience managing nonprofits and successfully partnering with Boards of Directors to help organizations fulfill their mission and vision. Currently, Michele serves as President of the Building Owners and Managers Association Greater Los Angeles (BOMA/GLA). BOMA/GLA is the leading commercial real estate advocate representing 135 million square feet of office and industrial space in Los Angeles. Since taking the helm as President in 2007, BOMA/GLA has dramatically expanded its issue advocacy and enhanced the organization’s influence on local and state policy.

Prior to her role at BOMA/GLA, Michele served as Executive Director of Professionals in Human Resources Association for ten years. Currently, she serves on two non-profit boards: The People Concern and Building Skills Partnership. Michele is also a founding board member of The Los Angeles Business Federation. (BizFed). Michele holds a BS in Business Administration from Southern New Hampshire University.

RANDY ZARN  
*Airport Advisory Commission*

Randy was born in Iowa but grew up in the suburbs of Chicago. He attended Western Illinois University, completing a Bachelors in Communications and a Masters in Counseling and Student Personnel. He then spent 38 years working in student services at several colleges and universities, including Augusta College, Notre Dame, 15 years at California State University, Long Beach, and finally California State University, Dominguez Hills, where he was Associate Vice President of Student Life. He retired from the CSU in 2010, at which time he started work as a consultant.

Eleven years ago, Randy began volunteering for Partners of Parks, the non profit supporting Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine. In 2016 he was appointed Executive Director and served in that role for two years. He is currently the Associate Director. He also volunteered for the YMCA Community Development Branch and served on the Board of Managers for 9 years and as the chair for 3 years. For 12 years, he has volunteered for Food Finders. For the past 5 years, he has been a volunteer for the Long Beach Airport. Randy looks forward to serving as a commissioner for the nationally recognized Long Beach Airport, “where the going is easy.”
ABOUT CITY COMMISSIONS

Long Beach's system of authorities, boards, commissions, and committees provides one way for residents who have special experience or interests to participate in the City's decision-making process by advising the City Council on numerous issues.

The boards and commissions system provides the opportunity to interact creatively with people of all ages, interests, and backgrounds. Democracy can be realized when residents are able to come together across neighborhood and economic lines to assist in making the community decisions that will shape all of their lives. While commissioners are themselves appointed from within the community, it is important that they in turn ensure that a wide variety of viewpoints from the rest of the community are considered when commissions make recommendations to the City Council. Commissioners should treat these widely varying viewpoints of other commissioners and members of the public with respect so that all citizens are encouraged to participate in government.

To learn more, view openings, and apply, visit:
longbeach.gov/readytoservecity
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LONGBEACH.GOV/READYTOSERVE