



LOS ANGELES AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

CHAMBER CONTACT:

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The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce believes in **“A Thriving Region for All”** and a **“Balanced Approach”** to decision-making and that **“Business is a Force for Good.”**

We design and advance opportunities and solutions for a thriving regional economy that is balanced, inclusive and globally competitive.

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

The Education & Workforce Development Council reviews and recommends policy priorities to the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, which advocates to improve the alignment of curricula and opportunities for skill development between businesses and educational institutions from early childhood through adulthood and continuing education.

California is the innovation state, home to emerging industries and entrepreneurs who fuel an economy that is recognized as the fourth largest in the world. To preserve California's economic competitiveness, the council's policy priorities include aligning education with industry to address gaps in the workforce, bolstering the current education system, increasing equitable access to academic achievement and work readiness, and protecting the region's competitiveness to attract and retain talent. These priorities not only improve academic outcomes, they generate homegrown talent prepared to become leaders in a rapidly changing economy.

Align Education to Address Gaps in the Workforce

- Refresh educational curricula to include relevant and in-demand workforce skill sets.
- Incentivize workforce development partnerships between public and private higher education institutions and companies.
- Create Bachelor of Science programs at community colleges to fill workforce gaps.
- Streamline the accreditation process for education programs that address workforce development.
- Support education and workforce policies that allow Dreamers and immigrants to gain greater access to the education system.

Bolster the Current Education System

- Support budget requests for public education and higher education.
- Incentivize careers in teaching and bolster policies to retain existing educators.

Increase Equitable Access to Academic Achievement and Work Readiness

- Invest in affordable, high-quality early education and child care programs.
- Fund programs that increase student enrollment, financial literacy, and digital accessibility.
- Expand wraparound care services for students in need of support.
- Reduce time and burdens for degree completion and transfers.
- Forge pathways for affordable higher education and skills training.



Protect the Region's Competitiveness to Attract and Retain Talent

- Advocate for regional, local, and community solutions that directly impact the workforce such as public transit, housing expansion and community centers.
- Champion policies and measures that incentivize the development of housing, as well as models that reduce the cost of living for working families, people with career changes, justice-involved populations, and students who stepped out of the traditional educational sequence.
- Support student debt relief and reimbursement programs.
- Incentivize employers and social enterprises to launch workforce development programs for people unable to access traditional pathways to education.
- Engage in issues around comprehensive reform for the immigration system.

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL LEADERSHIP



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Updated 05/15/2024



LOS ANGELES AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



ENERGY, WATER & ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COUNCIL

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ENERGY, WATER & ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

The Energy, Water & Environmental Sustainability Council focuses on advancing cost-effective policies and programs to ensure reliable and affordable water and energy delivery, improve air quality, promote economic growth, and address climate change in the Los Angeles region through the local development of technologies, businesses and jobs.

Advocate for Technology-neutral, Cost-effective, Reliable and Diverse Energy Supply

The Chamber recognizes that businesses must have an affordable, diverse and reliable energy supply for the regional economy to remain productive and competitive.

- Advocate for policies and funding that are inclusive of all energy sources, modernize our electric grid system to ensure reliability, and increase affordability.
- Work with members and policymakers to understand the options, feasibility and costs for investments in an alternative energy supply, including the related costs of integrating alternatives into the existing power systems.
- Support domestic energy production and further maintenance of the region's existing energy systems and supplies, including the integrity of our regional pipeline infrastructure.
- Support expediting infrastructure projects that support our diverse energy supply.
- Support modernization of wildfire response and liability as the state confronts a “new normal” given increased climate impacts.

Responsibly Implement Air Quality and Climate Regulations

The Chamber will work with local, state and federal environmental agencies and the Chamber's Transportation & Goods Movement Council to understand the availability, cost-effectiveness and feasibility of alternative fuels for the transportation sector to meet anticipated air quality standards in the region.

- Advocate for reasonable, cost-effective, and technology-neutral environmental policies at the local, state, and federal levels that achieve air quality goals while ensuring compliance and implementation of the South Coast AQMDs 2022 Air Quality Management Plan, CARB's 2022 Scoping Plan, and U.S. EPA environmental standards.
- Work with policymakers to ensure California receives sufficient funding from recent federal climate and infrastructure investments to adequately address air quality concerns in our region.
- Quantify and educate policymakers on the ongoing impacts of Assembly Bill 32 and Senate Bill 32 on the economy while furthering our commitment to address climate change and improve the environment and support our natural resources.



Secure Safe, Reliable and Affordable Water Supplies for Southern California

Securing a safe, reliable and affordable water supply is critical to the continued success of the region's economy. The Chamber supports the state's co-equal goals of providing a more reliable water supply and storage for California and restoring the delta ecosystem.

- Advocate for policies that protect California's long-term water security and are inclusive of all water sources — increased storage, groundwater recharge, desalination, stormwater capture, etc. — as outlined in Governor Gavin Newsom's Water Resilience Portfolio.
- Support an appropriately sized Delta Conveyance project and work with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) and other stakeholders to ensure the project meets milestones for its subsequent construction.
- Identify feasible and cost-effective augmentations to imported water and secure the long-term water quality and supply of the region.
- Support key drivers for local water security such as existing infrastructure investments as well as Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and MWD shared objectives of maintaining existing infrastructure and enhancing the diversity of the region's water supply resources (recycled water, stormwater, conservation, mitigation and remediation efforts).

- Advocate for federal and state funding and work with policymakers to streamline permitting so that water infrastructure projects can reach the construction phase quickly.
- Monitor water quality regulations at local and state levels to ensure compliance.

Strengthen Los Angeles' Position as a Global Leader of Clean Technology Innovation

California is a global leader in clean technology innovation and sustainable business practices. The Chamber will advocate for economic strategies to grow the region's clean technology sector.

- Pursue state and federal funding opportunities, streamline government processes to foster innovation, and work in conjunction with local organizations.
- Continue to advocate for funding opportunities for the region from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the Inflation Reduction Act.
- Increase collaboration among private, public and academic sectors, including with the Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator and PortTechLA.

ENERGY, WATER & ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COUNCIL LEADERSHIP



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LOS ANGELES AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



GOVERNMENT & FISCAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL

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GOVERNMENT & FISCAL AFFAIRS

The Government & Fiscal Affairs Council (GFA Council) serves as the Chamber’s primary committee to evaluate legislation and policies that broadly affect the business community and civic life, including business regulations, government reforms, budgets, taxes, election procedures, inclusion and public safety. The GFA Council will work to ensure underrepresented communities do not experience acts of violence, opportunity and resource inequities, and institutionalized racism. The GFA Council will support policies and programs that break down barriers to change, provide fair and equitable access to economic and safety opportunities, and encourage community collaboration and inclusiveness.

Review and Recommend Positions on Local and State Initiatives

The GFA Council reviews proposed local and state ballot initiatives and recommends positions to the Chamber’s Board of Directors. The council will continue to review these measures to ensure they are fiscally sound and do not negatively impact businesses in the L.A. region with higher taxes, new costs, or unnecessary regulatory burdens.

Good Governance and Fiscally Responsible Policies

The GFA Council will work to identify policies and take positions on business regulations to ensure they are fair and reasonable, foster good governance and promote fiscal responsibility. The council will advocate for prudent budgets and fair and consistent taxes in the city, county and state as well as oppose industry-specific taxes.

- Ensure accountability and transparency.
- Promote an equitable tax structure.
- Maximize investments, particularly for small businesses and underrepresented businesses.

Preserve Democracy and Protect Elections

The GFA Council will work to ensure a fair and open election process that is inclusive, convenient and user-friendly. The council will take positions on revisions to the L.A. County voting process and support election reforms that support, create or maintain inclusivity.

- Encourage maximum voter turnout and expand the use of mail-in ballots.
- Inform the business community of candidates’ positions on issues of interest.
- Support redistricting efforts that promote appropriate representation of community and business interests.
- Support efforts to achieve a more transparent and inclusive governance model in L.A. City and L.A. County.



Ensure Community Safety

The GFA Council will work to ensure business is at the forefront of public safety debates. The council supports balanced policies, preserving healthy communities and partnerships, and promoting systemic change.

- Promote an equitable tax structure.
- Work with stakeholders to redefine the role of police.
- Maximize business interests in changes to public safety protocols.
- Promote community decision-making that includes business perspectives.

GOVERNMENT & FISCAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL LEADERSHIP



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CO-CHAIR

Joshua Englander
JE Strategies



CO-CHAIR

Papia Gambelin
United Airlines



CO-CHAIR

Jose Atilio Hernandez
IDEATE California



CO-CHAIR

Daniel Murphy
Smartmatic

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HEALTH CARE COUNCIL



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HEALTH CARE

The Health Care Council of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce is a leader in providing the business perspective on key health care issues in the region. The Chamber is a leading, forward-minded voice for addressing health care access for all Californians and celebrates the state's recent historic achievement to qualify adults 26 to 49 for full-scope MediCal, regardless of immigration status.

The Chamber recognizes the health care industry is vital not only to the well-being of our residents, but to our businesses, workforce, and economy. Chamber members represent leading hospital systems, health plans, life sciences, medical devices, technology, and other health care market participants. These organizations also offer opportunities for investment in the region. As an important economic driver, the Chamber recognizes that health care is the largest employment sector in the region with career opportunities for people of all backgrounds, educational attainment, and skill sets. There are nearly 600,000 health care jobs in the Los Angeles region with additional jobs in the bioscience industry.

The Chamber is closely monitoring and engaging in national, state, and local proposals which impact the sustainability of the health care system to increase affordability, expand access to coverage and quality care, provide employee well-being and workplace safety investments, and create new avenues for workforce development. The Chamber will support efforts to sustain the region's health care system through advocacy steeped in an understanding of the wide breadth of issues impacting the system and communities.

Increased Health Care Accessibility and Affordability

- Support and preserve access to health care and increase state and federal reimbursement rates to fund patient care.
- Increase accessibility to preventive care, wellness programs, mental health services, and substance use treatment.
- Encourage coordinated response and planning for future public health emergencies.

Workforce Development

- Expand diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in educational programs, new forms of skill credentialing, and career change pathways to increase regional demographic representation, cultural competency, and emerging workforce demands.
- Support efforts and investments to enhance the training pipeline and to retain the existing workforce.
- Advocate for regional industry development initiatives in life sciences and competitive drug research.



HEALTH CARE COUNCIL LEADERSHIP



CHAIR

Augustavia Haydel
L.A. Care Health Plan



CO-CHAIR

Charlene Dimas-Peinado
Wellnest



CO-CHAIR

Ellen Zaman
Children's Hospital Los Angeles



INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

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INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY

The Innovation & Technology Council of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce supports policies and programs that foster the innovation and creativity that makes the L.A. region a more desirable place for technology companies and entrepreneurs to locate and grow their businesses. To do this, the council will support policies to increase the supply of technically skilled workers and entrepreneurs and lead to a more transparent, accessible and efficient government while safeguarding consumer data. The council also supports providing access and tools to close the digital divide and enhance digital literacy among students, workers and business owners.

Access to Broadband & Wireless Infrastructure

The council will support smart broadband and wireless infrastructure access, adoption policies (e.g., increase digital literacy among students, employees, and business owners), as well as public policy that aids in removing barriers to broadband infrastructure deployment. In our digital economy, Los Angeles area businesses will not survive if they do not have an online presence. The council also supports policies and programs that provide technical assistance and training for businesses.

- Focus resources first on unserved communities. Support programming that increases access to devices, and encourages the deployment of broadband and wireless infrastructure in a technology-neutral manner.
- Protect a level playing field and oppose government intervention in the competitive marketplace. The government should not favor one company over another.
- Encourage broadband and wireless infrastructure adoption programs and affordability programs through direct subsidies to consumers or through the provision of services and digital literacy programming.
- Support internet policies and principles that allow the internet to flourish. Oppose burdensome and archaic regulations.

Support AI Advancement

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has entered the tech landscape and has proven to be a leading force. The Chamber is a proud supporter of the advancement of AI to improve access and efficiencies in business. Although the Chamber supports AI, it also acknowledges that for AI to be a successful, accessible tool for all, the business community must work with all levels of government to provide protections and appropriate regulations for AI.

- As AI transforms our work, we strongly advocate for a smooth transition by integrating workforce development programs to ease the transition and ensure no one is left behind.
- Promote the use of AI among small businesses.
- Encourage training and educational programs regarding the use of AI.
- Create government safeguards for data privacy when it comes to AI.



Invigorate Los Angeles Tech Economy

As AI advances, more start-up companies and small businesses with a focus on AI are being created. The Chamber is prepared to help the Los Angeles region become a “home base” for all AI start-up companies and businesses. This can be done through working more collaboratively with small businesses and the regional workforce. Making the Los Angeles region a place where AI can flourish can be achieved through prioritizing the needs of the tech economy, small businesses, and the workforce.

- Work with policymakers, small business owners, and the workforce to develop reskilling plans.
- Collaborate with policymakers to increase AI training and implement programs for underserved communities.
- Partner with educational institutions and policymakers for reskilling.

Cybersecurity and Data Privacy

In recent years, various states have overhauled their infrastructure to create cybersecurity hubs, allowing residents and small businesses alike to have complete trust in the security of their data. Los Angeles has the opportunity to strengthen its infrastructure as well. The Chamber strongly encourages the promotion of a competitive economy to lead Los Angeles to be a global force.

- Implement more awareness of cybersecurity job opportunities in the city.
- Partner with small businesses and government agencies to strengthen Los Angeles cybersecurity infrastructure and educate Angelenos on cybersecurity and data privacy.

INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL LEADERSHIP



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LAND USE, CONSTRUCTION & HOUSING COUNCIL

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LAND USE, CONSTRUCTION, & HOUSING

The Land Use, Construction & Housing Council of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce supports the adoption and implementation of planning policies that incorporate smart growth tools, drive economic growth, improve environmental sustainability, and enhance the quality of life and connectedness of our region.

Housing Production

The Los Angeles region is projected to grow by more than 400,000 new residents in the next 20 years, yet less than one-half of the needed housing is built annually. As housing demand continues to outpace supply, it is driving rents and housing prices even higher.

To tackle the existing needs of our communities and address the housing crisis, the Chamber will advocate for business-friendly incentives and opportunities to create more housing at all levels, cultivate healthier neighborhoods, and increase safety in our communities to make the region a more commuter-friendly place to live and work.

- Prioritize and advocate for workforce housing.
- Support efforts to streamline the CEQA process.
- Modernize the preservation of CEQA's original intent and prevent abuse for purposes unrelated to environmental protection.
- Streamline the appeals process and bring local regulations into compliance with state guidelines.
- Advocate for incentives for companies that provide and build affordable housing.
- Push for policies that ease the way for the construction of housing.
- Advocate for the City of L.A. to continue updating all planning documents, including community plans, to reflect pro-housing policies and develop more transit-oriented communities.
- Support projects in the region that provide economic development in Los Angeles and ease the housing crisis.
- Ensure the region meets the challenges of population growth, diverse housing demands, and changing technologies, and also creates certainty for the development of our communities and residents.
- Support the statewide repeal of Article 34 of the California Constitution and increase affordable housing capacity for the City of L.A. as a backstop (SCA 2).
- Allow flexibility in providing affordable housing with market-rate housing developments.



Community Activation

The pandemic has affected our communities — and Downtown Los Angeles (DTLA) is no different. The concerns for public safety have discouraged Angelenos from visiting DTLA. The Chamber must work to enhance public safety to encourage residents and tourists to visit DTLA. The Chamber can work with nonprofits and other DTLA business organizations to collectively work towards re-engaging and revitalizing downtown.

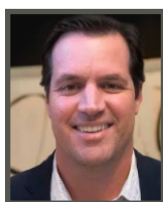
- Support the development of community activation strategies across all issue areas, including education, housing, homelessness, and economic mobility.
- Support and ensure the goals of the DTLA 2040 Community Plan guide new development for the next 20 years.
- Assist in efforts to ensure that land use designations are flexible to support the evolving nature of DTLA.
- Reimagine businesses in ways that promote community and create opportunity and well-being.
- Support adaptive reuse that revitalizes the area.
- Streamline projects to attract people to DTLA.

LAND USE, CONSTRUCTION & HOUSING COUNCIL LEADERSHIP



CHAIR

Phillip Tate
Kilroy Realty Corporation



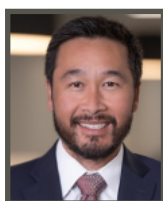
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LOS ANGELES AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



TRANSPORTATION & GOODS MOVEMENT COUNCIL

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TRANSPORTATION & GOODS MOVEMENT

The Transportation & Goods Movement Council addresses all issues related to our region’s mobility — highway, rail, air, shipping, transit, cycling, walking, roads and arterials. The council advocates for federal, state, and local policies and programs that provide system-wide and regional solutions that promote equity through transportation. The council also emphasizes the importance of transportation and goods movement to the region and nation’s economies, while encouraging balanced approaches to improving environmental sustainability.

Support Investment in Sustainable Goods Movement Infrastructure at the Ports and Along Goods Movement Corridors

Support the expansion and improvement of goods movement infrastructure and systems. Goods movement is the engine of the Southern California’s economy and supports the funding sources necessary for all modes of transportation.

- Lead and coordinate efforts at local, state, and federal levels for the funding and implementation of critical projects.
- Advocate for smart regulations that facilitate the effective and efficient movement of goods through our ports, such as zero-emissions trucks, charging and fueling infrastructure, and grid enhancements to ensure long-term reliability.
- Convene and work with policymakers and stakeholders on efforts to find a sensible and reasonable solution for the future of the I-710 corridor, taking into account the growth of goods movement while ensuring equitable opportunities and outcomes for communities along the corridor.

Support Continued Investments in our Region’s Vast Infrastructure Network in Preparation for the 2028 Olympics

The historic investments provided by the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) provide a once-in-a-generation opportunity to rebuild Los Angeles into a world-class region. The Chamber will be a leader in building consensus among policymakers and stakeholders to ensure projects are built in a timely and cost-effective manner.

- Work with local agencies and elected partners to advocate for the region to secure its fair share of funding for new and ongoing projects while engaging our membership in the procurement process and other related business opportunities.
- Advocate for policies that streamline the permitting process, including CEQA reform, and lead to accelerated delivery of planned transportation projects. The Chamber will coordinate and lead efforts with public and private sector partners from project initiation through ribbon cutting.
- Build off past successes and plan a 2026 IIJA reauthorization strategy with partners and stakeholders.



Advocate for Sensible Environmental and Sustainability Policies that Promote Emissions Reductions While Promoting Economic Growth

One of our region's key competitive edges is its two ports — the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. Their modernization and efficient operation are essential to maintaining our competitiveness on a global scale. Investment in both the federal and state freight plans will bolster our edge.

- Advocate for reasonable, cost-effective, and technology-neutral air quality regulations for the transportation sector, and ensure that regulations balance the environmental and economic needs of the South Coast Air Basin.
- Advocate and propose legislation and programs aimed at increasing zero-emission vehicles (ZEV) and ZEV infrastructure — including large commercial trucks and cargo handling equipment — across the region and country to reduce greenhouse gases from the transportation sector.

Support Expanding and Improving Southern California's Multi-modal Transportation Systems

The region's network of roads, transit lines, commuter rail, goods movement corridors, and ports of entry (both air and sea) provide the mobility and accessibility foundation to support the region's economy.

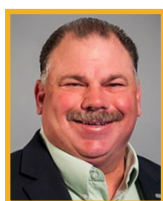
- Support transportation policies at all levels of government to increase mobility, relieve congestion, and expand alternative commute options.
- Work with local agencies and policymakers to identify opportunities for improving the safety and security of our region's transportation network.
- Promote equity in the implementation of the IIJA with a focus on providing opportunities for historically disadvantaged businesses to participate in the IIJA and other publicly-funded projects.

TRANSPORTATION AND GOODS MOVEMENT COUNCIL LEADERSHIP



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FAST— Fixing Angelenos Stuck in Traffic



LOS ANGELES AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



WOMEN'S POLICY COUNCIL

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WOMEN'S POLICY COUNCIL

The Women's Policy Council of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce advocates to support the immediate and ongoing needs of women in all business sectors and industries as they navigate entry and re-entry into the workforce. When women thrive, the economy grows. The council is committed to addressing barriers that keep women from fully participating in our economy. The Women's Policy Council will serve women as we enter a new era in our world.

Access to the Workforce

Workforce Development and Advancement

- Advocate that employers provide resources.
- Support advancement, skilling, and re-skilling opportunities for women beyond the traditional industries.
- Advocate that employers provide child care and dependent care resources.

Equity in Pay and Advancement Opportunities

- Advocate for parity between men and women in pay and advancement.
- Conduct an internal audit to address inequities. Women of color experience an even greater disparity in pay equity and advancement in their careers.

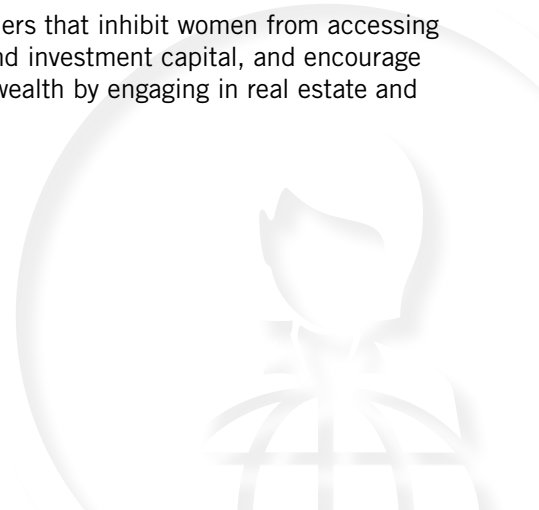
Wealth Creation

Entrepreneurship Opportunities and Contracting

- Promote entrepreneurship opportunities for women.
- Support contracting opportunities for women.
- Advocate for women-owned businesses and women-led organizations.

Capital and Capacity Building

- Invest in capacity building for women-owned businesses.
- Break down barriers that inhibit women from accessing growth capital and investment capital, and encourage women to build wealth by engaging in real estate and home ownership.





WOMEN'S POLICY COUNCIL LEADERSHIP



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