ENERGY, WATER & ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COUNCIL
January 19, 2018 / 10-11:30AM

1. WELCOME & SELF-INTRODUCTIONS - Brissa Sotelo-Vargas

2. PRESENTATIONS
   Safe, Clean Water Program
   - Mark Pestrella
     Director of Public Works, Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation (LASAN)
     The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors issued a directive to implement water projects and programs that increase water supply, provide community enhancements and increase public access to water.
   - Ted Bardacke
     Director of Infrastructure, Mayor Garcetti’s Office
     The City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County are working closely to develop and implement the Safe, Clean Water Program.

   Proposed Refinery Rule – Modified Hydrofluoric Acid
   - Betsy Brien
     Manager, PBF Energy and CaSE
     South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) is considering Proposed Rule 1410, which would ban or phase-out Modified Hydrofluoric Acid (MHF) in gasoline production. AQMD will hold a meeting about the proposed rule on January 20 in Torrance. Ms. Brien will explain MHF’s role in our regional refineries and the rule’s impact on the Los Angeles region.

3. ACTION ITEMS
   - 2018 Advocacy Agenda
   - ACA-1: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Reserve Fund
   - SB-5: California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate Coastal Protection and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS
   - L.A. Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Inaugural Dinner: January 31
   - ACCESS Washington, DC: March 13-15
   - ACCESS Sacramento: May 22-23

Next Meeting
February 16, 2018
10-11:30AM
Mark Pestrella, P.E.
Director
County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

Mark Pestrella is the Director of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works. In this capacity he also serves as the County Engineer, the County Road Commissioner, and the Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District. With an annual budget of more than $2.5 billion and a workforce of 4,000 employees, the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works is the largest municipal public works agency in the United States, providing vital public infrastructure and civic services to more than 10 million people across a 4,000 square mile service area.

A native of Southern California, Mr. Pestrella attended California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering with concentrations in structural engineering and water resource management. He is a licensed civil engineer in the State of California and has taught post-graduate classes in Civil Engineering and Land Development Entitlement at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Mr. Pestrella is a 30-year veteran of the Department and has held a variety of management positions. Mr. Pestrella is also an active member of the American Public Works Association, American Society of Civil Engineers, American Water Works Association, Association of California Water Agencies, National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies (Board Member), Southern California Water Committee, and Urban Water Institute (Board Member).

The Department designs, constructs, operates, and maintains roads, highways, bridges, airports, sewers, and flood control and water conservation facilities, as well as water distribution systems for the County, the Flood Control District, special districts, and contract cities. In addition, the Department provides management services for capital projects and serves as a first responder for disaster preparedness, response, and recovery. The Department provides leadership in the countywide transportation system, traffic mitigation efforts, and solid and hazardous waste management planning.
Ted Bardacke
Director of Infrastructure
Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti

Ted Bardacke has forged a unique career focusing on sustainable urbanism and economic development that spans three continents. He currently holds the positions of Director of Infrastructure for Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, and Adjunct Professor of Urban Environmental Design and Planning at UCLA.

Infrastructure systems under Ted’s purview include electricity generation, transmission and distribution, waste collection and recycling, street and sidewalk maintenance, street lighting, urban forestry, and municipal building design. He is also involved with the entire water cycle, including potable supply, recycled water creation and distribution, rainwater management, and groundwater recharge. He is charged with moving this infrastructure towards a more distributed and sustainable system, in line with the city’s first ever Sustainability Plan, which Ted was instrumental in crafting in his previous role as Deputy Director of Mayor Garcetti’s Office of Sustainability.

From 2003 to 2013, Ted worked in the Green Urbanism Program at Global Green USA and during the 1990s was a foreign correspondent for the Financial Times of London, based in Mexico City and Bangkok. A graduate of Wesleyan University and the Graduate School of Architecture at Columbia University, he has been a Visiting Fellow at Mexico City’s Centro de Transporte Sustentable and is co-author with teaching colleague Walker Wells, of Blueprint for Greening Affordable Housing (Island Press, 2007).
Review cost impacts of and responsibly implement air quality 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 commercial and personal vehicle use in order to help meet anticipated air quality standards in the region, in addition to following implementation of the Air Quality Management District’s 2016 Air Quality Management Plan in order to achieve compliance. The Chamber will also closely monitor federal environmental standards at the Environmental Protection Agency and the State, specifically AB32 and SB32, while quantifying the impact of these new standards on the economy of California.

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 Los Angeles’ 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. Recognizing that a reliable water source is critical to Southern California, Metropolitan Water District voted to support California WaterFix in 2017. As a supporter of WaterFix, the Chamber will continue to advocate for the state-wide adoption and implementation of the project. The Chamber will also identify feasible and cost-effective augmentations to imported water in order to secure the long-term water quality and supply of the region, taking into account existing infrastructure investments, and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and Metropolitan Water District shared objectives of maintaining their existing infrastructure and enhancing the diversity of the region’s water supply resources, including recycled, stormwater water, conservation, mitigation and remediation efforts.

Advocated for technology neutral, cost effective, reliable and diverse energy supply (Previous wording: Promote an affordable, reliable and diverse energy supply)

The Chamber recognizes that businesses must have an affordable, diverse and reliable energy supply with storage capacity for the regional economy to remain productive and competitive. The Chamber will work with members and policymakers to understand the options, feasibility and costs for investments in alternative energy supply, including the related infrastructure and operational costs of integrating alternatives into the existing power systems. The Chamber will support domestic energy production and maintenance of the region’s existing energy systems and supplies, including the integrity and safety of our regional pipeline infrastructure.

Strengthen Los Angeles’ position as a global leader of clean technology innovation

California is a global leader of clean technology innovation and sustainable business practices. The Chamber will advocate for economic strategies that will continue to help L.A.’s clean technology sector grow. This includes pursuing state and federal funding opportunities, streamlining government processes, and working in conjunction with organizations such as the LA CleanTech Incubator, PortTechLA and the Chamber’s Bixel Exchange to increase collaboration among the private, public and academic sectors.

Modernize California’s Environmental Quality Act

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) must be modernized to preserve the law’s original intent while preventing abuse for purposes unrelated to environmental protection. The Chamber supports substantive improvements and will continue to engage in a statewide coalition effort advocating for a “standards approach,” which will integrate California’s strongest-in-the-nation environmental laws and planning documents into the CEQA process, streamline the project approval and challenge processes, and reduce the risk of lawsuits that abuse the intent of CEQA and delay development, jobs and economic recovery. Cross-sector and council collaboration with the Chambers’ Land Use, Housing and Construction and Transport and Goods Movement Councils on CEQA reform is important to effectively meet housing needs and emission reduction requirements.
SUMMARY:
ASSEMBLY CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT NO. 1: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Reserve Fund. (ACA-1)
This is a proposed amendment to the California State Constitution that requires all revenues from California’s cap-and-trade auctions be deposited into a Greenhouse Gas Reduction Reserve Fund effective January 1, 2024 established to hold funds that will be used on greenhouse gas reduction programs and projects throughout the State. The reserve funds will be made available to the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund after a one-time, two-thirds approval on a spending plan by both chambers of the legislature.

OVERVIEW:
As part of the 2017 negotiations that ensured California’s cap-and-trade program continues to 2030, Governor Brown, legislative Democrats and Republicans agreed to create the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Reserve Fund (Reserve Fund. Effective January 1, 2024 revenues raised from cap-and-trade will be deposited directly into the Reserve Fund. Additionally, beginning January 1, 2024 the manufacturing sales tax exemptions will be suspended, its revenues will also be placed in the Reserve Fund until a spending bill is successfully passed. This is estimated to raise approximately $260 million in additional annual revenue for the Reserve Fund.

Once the spending plan is approved by both chambers, the revenue in the Reserve Fund will be available to the Greenhouse Reduction Fund, which requires a simple majority vote to approve spending for projects and programs.

Support: CalChamber,

Oppose: Coalition for Clean Air

RECOMMENDATION:
SUPPORT. The Chamber supports ACA-1 because it is an important bipartisan effort that enables discussion and evaluations of the goals, programs and projects aimed at reducing the State’s greenhouse gas emissions. As a general principle, it is important to evaluate the efficacy and efficiency of government programs, including those aim at reducing climate change.
SUMMARY:
SENATE BILL NO. 5: California Drought, Water, parks, Climate Coastal Protection and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018. (SB-5). This ballot measure would authorize the State to issue $4 billion in general obligation bonds for state and local parks, environmental protection and restoration projects, water infrastructure projects and flood protection.

OVERVIEW:
SB-5 would authorize the California to issue $4 billion in general obligation bonds to fund projects and programs that address water quality and supply, and environmental protection and restoration. Water quality and supply programs and projects would receive $1.27B in bond funding (30%) and environmental protection and restoration projects would receive $2.83B in funding (70%). Between 15 and 20 percent of bond funds would be required to fund projects in communities with a median household income below 60% of the statewide average.

Major Project and Program Categories:
- Groundwater clean up to improve water quality
- Flood protection and repair
- Clean drinking water and drought
- Parks in urban and disadvantaged communities

Benefits:
- Improves state park tourism
- Helps address backlogs of deferred maintenance in State Parks
- Invests in rural communities


Oppose: Coalition for Clean Air

RECOMMENDATION:
SUPPORT. SB-5 will fund projects and programs that are designed to positively impact water supply and quality in California, which is critical to the Los Angeles region.
Join us for an evening of celebration with the installation of the 2018 Board Chair and the recognition of extraordinary leadership with the Civic Medal of Honor, Distinguished Business Leader and Corporate Leadership awards.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 31, 2018

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INAUGURAL DINNER

INTERCONTINENTAL LOS ANGELES DOWNTOWN
900 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90017

5:30 p.m. | Cocktail Reception
7 p.m. | Dinner & Program

Business Attire

For more information, contact:
Sarah Quigley, squigley@lachamber.com or 213.580.7561.

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For sponsorship information, contact Lee Ligons, 213.580.7523 or ligons@lachamber.com.

*as of 1.5.18
Join the L.A. Area Chamber, Central City Association, Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, Los Angeles Business Council, Los Angeles County Business Federation, Los Angeles County Metro, Los Angeles Unified School District, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Mobility 21, United Way of Greater Los Angeles, Valley Industry & Commerce Association and a delegation of more than 150 business and civic leaders as we travel to the nation’s capital to meet with federal lawmakers on issues ranging from transportation and health care, to immigration and education.

Please note that this year’s hotel accommodations will be at the J.W. Marriott, 1331 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20004.

For more information, contact Maribel Flores, 213.580.7571.