INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL  
February 16, 2016

1. WELCOME & SELF-INTRODUCTIONS:

2. PRESENTATIONS:
   • Los Angeles Fire Department Briefing  
     Chief Ralph Terrazas, Los Angeles Fire Department  
     When Chief Terrazas took the reins of one of the City's oldest departments, he publicly announced plans to make it more technologically sophisticated. Since being sworn in as Chief in August of 2014, he's hired a Chief Technology Officer and implemented a pilot program for using tech to improve response times and public safety. The Chief will update us on technological change and innovation in the Fire Department.  
     Twitter: @LAFDChief

3. ACTION ITEM(S):
   • 2016 Advocacy Agenda

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
   • Legislative Update
   • Start-Up Development Update
   • Tech Ed Partnerships Update

Upcoming Chamber Events:
   • ACCESS DC: April 26th - April 28th @ JW Marriott
   • ACCESS Sacramento: June 7th-8th @ Citizen Hotel

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Next Innovation & Technology Policy Council: March 15, 2016
Chief Ralph Terrazas
Los Angeles Fire Department

Ralph M. Terrazas is the Fire Chief of the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD).

Prior to his appointment, he was an Assistant Fire Chief assigned to the South Division “A” Platoon. As a Division Commander, Terrazas was responsible for leading, managing, and training the approximately 500 members on duty at 54 fire stations throughout seven battalion commands. The South Division Command covers half of the City and includes the complex institutions of the Port of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles International Airport.

Terrazas is a 31-year veteran of the LAFD and is the 18th Fire Chief of the LAFD. During his tenure, he has served as a chief officer for 14 years in a variety of field and administrative commands. He established the Department’s Professional Standards Division (PSD), which upgraded and professionalized the LAFD’s disciplinary system; applied metric-based management at the Division and Battalion level to achieve continual improvement and data tracking of specific objectives; led the development and passage of the Proposition “F” Fire Station Bond, which enabled the construction of 19 new LAFD stations; served as the Community Liaison Officer, and is the holder of a U.S. Patent for a “Brush Fire Rate of Spread” tool and an Emmy Award of Excellence for production of a public service announcement program.

Terrazas was born in Long Beach, Calif., and was raised in nearby Wilmington. He is a graduate of Banning High School, where he played on two City Championship football teams. He retains strong ties to the Wilmington community through his founding and support of the Banning High School/LAFD Fire Academy, which has mentored high school students towards successful professional careers for the past 14 years.

He holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Public Administration and a Certificate in Fire Protection Administration from San Diego State University. In 1995, he received Master’s Degree in Public Administration with an emphasis on Human Resource Management from California State University, Los Angeles. He was appointed to the LAFD in December 1983, fulfilling a lifelong goal of a professional career in the fire and EMS service.

Terrazas and his wife Dayna, a registered nurse, have three children and are long-time residents of San Pedro.
The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce advocates for policies and programs that foster innovation and creativity, that make L.A. a more desirable place for technology companies and entrepreneurs to locate and grow their businesses, that increase the supply of technically skilled workers and entrepreneurs, and that lead to a more transparent, accessible and efficient government.

Support comprehensive immigration reform to build skilled workforce
The Chamber has long supported comprehensive immigration reform and we will continue to advocate for this issue with greater specificity on the needs of the technology industry. LA and the nation need sensible, comprehensive immigration reform in order to drive our booming technology industry with new entrepreneurs and secure a globally competitive future workforce. Congress should establish a streamlined process for admitting future workers and entrepreneurs, including an increase in the number of H1-B visas, creation of a new STEM green card category, and a pathway to citizenship for undocumented residents.

Foster greater certainty for innovators
Entrepreneurs should be encouraged to focus on building their products and companies rather than face frequent intimidation by patent trolls and extortion attempts. The Chamber supports patent reform policies that reign in anti-innovation practices and establish a proper framework for patent disputes. For certainty in business practices, information technology and service companies should be able to comply with government data collection needs while balancing their right to protect sensitive and proprietary consumer data. The Chamber will advocate for clear policies and guidelines for data-gathering which allow companies to safeguard consumer data information.

Increase Government Open Data and Transparency
Government data has the potential to revolutionize many industries and stimulate entrepreneurs to create innovative new solutions and services. The Chamber applauds the L.A. City Controller’s launch of an open data initiative to reveal the City’s spending data, and the Center’s for Medicare and Medicaid Services providing information about government use of health care funds and outcomes. The Chamber supports greater government transparency and information-sharing with the public to unlock the potential for imaginative and data-driven outcomes by public and private entities. We look forward to providing business community expertise and input on best uses and education for the entrepreneurial community.
Bolster STEM education efforts in public schools and colleges
As the information economy grows, it will need a steady supply of diverse, technically skilled and educated employees to infuse companies with their creativity and talent. To increase the supply and quality of L.A.’s talent pool, the Chamber supports industry-based skills education expansion, continuing education, and career pathways development that harness the expertise of science and technology leaders. The Chamber connects students directly to the region’s growing tech community and employers through private and public partnerships that provide critical skills training for future employees and nurture the next generation of tech leaders.

Increase Targeted Investments in High Growth Industries
With 900 service sites across the country, Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) provide key touch points for small businesses and entrepreneurs to gain mentorship and assistance in growing their companies. Congress should increase targeted investments of federal resources toward SBDCs which focus on advising companies in high-growth industries.
Innovation & Technology Update: LAFD 2.0
Developing a Technologically World-Class Organization & Increasing efficiency to save more lives

Why: In response to the LAFD Fire Strategic Technology Integration “FIRST-IN” Motion, complementary to the ongoing FIRESTAT LA initiative, the LAFD Technology Task Force approached the L.A. Area Chamber’s Bixel Exchange emerging technology center, to assist with the initiative as the intermediary between the Fire Department and the L.A. technology community.

How: Bixel Exchange was able to convene the region’s top talent from the Silicon Beach startup community, as well as representatives from our local academic institutions in a series of collaborative programming efforts to conceptualize innovative solutions.

The Process:
• 20+ ride alongs spanning across the City of Los Angeles
• 5+ focus groups & working sessions
• Spoke with 50+ firefighters for a boots-on-the-ground perspective
• Spoke with 6+ major metropolitan fire departments across the US (e.g. NYC, Phoenix, Seattle, etc.)
• Participated in a Federal disaster preparedness drill
• Testified at the City’s Innovation & General Services Committee

Areas for improvement fell into 2 buckets: Process Management & People Management

Recommendations:
1. Move from paper to digital, from digital to mobile – Eliminate paper and digitize existing internal processes to allow for both digital & mobile compatibility.
2. Get the right tools into the hands of firefighters – Adopt & deploy tablets to all relevant external applications, including GPS, mobile routers, & digital mapping to ensure that all firefighters have the proper tools and supporting tech at their fingertips.
3. Make it easier for LAFD to propose, implement, & monitor technology projects – LAFD management should have internal systems organized through which rank-and-file members can relay ideas for technology pilot projects to leadership based on daily operational needs.
4. Break down hierarchies & silos – Recognize the existing intellectual capital within LAFD ranks and proceed with due diligence to ensure this resource does not go untapped.
5. Hire chief technology officer with a revamped technical services division directly in charge of the technology roadmap – Create a technology roadmap, recruit and employ an A-list team for oversight of the division, vision-plan, prioritized initiatives, and internal resources to successfully achieve tangible accomplishments.
6. Build the tech infrastructure to support items no. 1-5 – Overhaul LAFD dispatching and emergency vehicle communications, revamp the network staffing system, and integrate all current databases to streamline organizational efficiency.
Join us as we travel to our nation’s capitol.

The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with local government officials, business groups and chambers of commerce, leads an annual delegation of more than 200 business leaders and public officials to Washington, D.C. to advocate for Southern California. Participants meet with members of congress and the president’s administration on key issues. The trip includes two breakfasts with high ranking congressional or administration leaders, a marquee reception and a delegation dinner.

Price & Hotel Information
Early bird registration is $750 per person until March 18. After that date, registration increases to $850 per person.

This fee includes all of the trip’s scheduled events, as well as costs associated with meeting planning and delegate materials. Registration fee includes selected receptions and meals. Participants are responsible for their own travel and hotel arrangements.

GROUP HOTEL REGISTRATION ENDS: MARCH 1

The JW Marriott Washington, D.C. is the conference hotel and is offering a group rate of $369 per night. Space is limited, and the group rate expires March 1. Please contact the JW Marriott directly at 202.626.2605. Group name: “ACCESS DC.”

Scenes from ACCESS Washington, D.C. 2015:

2015 ACCESS D.C. Delegation
Sen. Dianne Feinstein addressed the delegation.
Delegates had the opportunity to meet with Sen. Barbara Boxer.
Delegates participated in one of 15 teams advocating for 36 priority issues.