



Ventura County Special Districts Association

July/August
2016

Offering Quality of Life Services Through Direct Representation



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Mike Paule

Greetings VCSDA members!

It was great to see the good turnout for our June meeting at Calleguas Municipal Water District. Eric Bergh provided an enlightening and comprehensive update on our State and Local Water situation, which reflects the short-term and long term challenges we face in our water supply. His presentation slides are available on the VCSDA website.

I hope everyone's Summer is going well and that you are taking advantage of some of the many recreational activities and events that we have available in our County. Our VCSDA members put on some terrific Summer programs, including concerts in the parks, events at our beaches, hiking and camping and other activities for us to enjoy.

It won't be long until the General Election cycle dominates the political scene, and many of our members will be filing for re-election. The filing period for the November election begins on July 18th when candidates can start to pull papers for the many open seats on our Special Districts and other local governmental agencies.

We have a lot of propositions appearing on our November Ballot, including local measures such as SOAR and the Transportation Tax Measure.

At our August 2nd meeting, our speaker will be Darren Kettle—Executive Director of the Ventura County Transportation Commission. Darren will provide information on the Ventura County Transportation Tax Measure that will be on the November Ballot. Come learn more about how this measure will impact our County transportation projects for years to come.

VCSDA BI-MONTHLY MEETING

August 2, 2016 at

Pleasant Valley Recreation & Park
District—Senior Center
1605 E. Burnley St.
Camarillo, CA 93010

5:30 PM Dinner
6:15 PM Meeting

Guest Speaker:
Darren Kettle
Executive Director—VCTC

More details with the RSVP form
RSVP before deadline with enclosed form



Darren Kettle

Darren is the Executive Director of the Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC). He started with VCTC in October 2007. In his service to VCTC, Darren leads a staff focused on efforts to improve transportation planning to ensure the wise investment of transportation funds then prioritizing those limited funds on a wide range of transportation projects, ranging from major highway projects to bicycle and pedestrian projects and bus and rail projects and operations.

Darren has a Bachelors degree in Political Science from the University of California, Santa Barbara and a Masters in Public Administration from California State University, San Bernardino. His professional career spans over 27 years of public service for local and regional government and transportation agencies in Southern California.

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Legislative Update



LEGISLATIVE REPORT – Ventura County Special Districts Assoc. (July 2016)

Here are some highlights from the July 2016 CSDA Grassroots Action Brief.

State Budget Passes

On June 15, the State constitutional deadline, the Legislature passed California's 2016-17 State Budget, which the Governor signed on June 27.

Governance and Accountability

CSDA sponsored legislation, AB 2613 (Achadjian), to address the costs of annual audit requirements for small districts has passed all the necessary policy committees unanimously and will be heard next on the Senate Floor. The bill will authorize a special district with annual revenues of \$150,000 or less to replace its annual audit with a less costly financial compilation.

Little Hoover Commission to Take up Special Districts Again.

On Thursday, August 25, the Little Hoover Commission will conduct a hearing on special districts in the State Capitol. While details of the hearing are forthcoming, the commission's announcement, posted to its website, references its last study in May of 2000 as background to this upcoming effort. A copy of the commission's announcement and links to the website and previous study can be found at www.lhc.ca.gov.

AB 2257 (Maienschein) Website Mandate (CSDA Position (Oppose))

Micro-manages how special districts and other local agencies design their websites by mandating they place their online agenda postings on their homepage.

AB 779 (Garcia) Local Gov Financial Disclosures—CSDA Position (Oppose)

Requires special districts and other local agencies to post a link on the homepage of their websites that contains the names, positions, and total compensation, including a breakdown of the types of compensation provided, for each elected official within that entity for the previous fiscal year. This report would be in addition to the existing report that is filed with the State Controller's Office and linked to the agency's website.



Legislative Update Cont'd



Infrastructure, Innovation, and Investment

SB 885 Pulled from Consideration

CSDA's top priority oppose bill, Senate Bill 885 (Wolk) was pulled from Assembly Judiciary Committee and will not move forward this year. SB 885 would have required a public agency to defend the actions of design professionals by creating a "reimbursement only" process that would have resulted in the public agency shouldering all of the associated costs upfront. The public agency would have then had to seek reimbursement from the design professional, to the extent the design professional was found negligent.

SB 1170 (Wieckowski) Public Works Liability — CSDA Position (Oppose)

Requires special districts and other local agencies to directly manage and implement a stormwater pollution prevention plan on every public works project exceeding one acre in size. Allows for the agency to contract this work with a design professional, but prohibits doing so with the contractors managing and implementing the day-to-day construction of the project.

SB 957 (Hueso) Design-Build for Healthcare Districts — CSDA Position (Support)

Would authorize, until January 1, 2025, any health care district to use the design-build process when contracting for the construction of a hospital or health facility building.

CSDA Member Benefit

The final report from the 2015-16 CSDA Administrative Salary and Benefits Survey is now available. More than 400 districts of all types and sizes responded to the survey, providing valuable, up-to-date information on salary, health insurance practices, and retirement plans for 20 of the most common administrative positions. The report enables districts to compare their own data to that submitted by similar agencies, based on criteria such as district type, region, number of employees, and operating revenue. Agencies that participated in the survey receive special pricing on the report.

Contact CSDA member services to order your copy.

Photos from the June 7, 2016 Meeting at the Calleguas Municipal Water District

