

**PM 1: Insider's Look: California's 2017 Policy Impacts**  
*Magic Kingdom Ballroom 1*

**MODERATOR**



**Richard Katz**  
*Principal, Richard Katz Consulting, Inc.*

Richard Katz was elected to the California State Assembly in 1980, serving continuously for 16 years. As Democratic Leader in 1995, Richard led the Party to majority status by winning 43 seats in the 1996 elections. California's term limits law prohibited him from seeking re-election.

For 10 years, Richard served as Chair of the powerful Assembly Transportation Committee. He created the Congestion Management Plan, requiring cities and counties to measure and mitigate impacts of land use decisions on their streets, highways and transit systems.

Richard was California's lead negotiator for the landmark Colorado River Agreement between the State of California, the Federal Government, four California Water Agencies, and the six Colorado River Basin States, furthering his expertise as a negotiator on issues of statewide significance.

Richard had already played a pivotal role in renegotiating \$30 billion worth of California's Energy contracts and developing California's Transportation Blueprint for the 21st Century, which the voters approved as Proposition 111 in 1990.

In June of 2005, Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa appointed Richard to serve with him on the Governing Board of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, where he served for eight years. In 2008, the Mayor appointed Richard to the Metrolink Board after the horrendous Chatsworth accident, "to make sure this never happens again." Richard served on the Metrolink Board for seven years, focused on safety issues and leading the effort that resulted in Metrolink being the first railroad in the country to implement Positive Train Control (PTC) a state of the art life saving satellite based technology.

When Mayor Garcetti was elected in 2013, he appointed Richard to the Los Angeles City Planning Commission, where he continues to serve.

Richard is the owner of a successful public policy/government relations firm, Richard Katz Consulting (RKC), Inc. He currently serves as the Chairman of the Valley Economic Alliance and on the Boards of Heal the Bay, the Saving the West Foundation and the Los Angeles Coalition.

A native of Los Angeles, Richard lives in Studio City with his nine-year-old son Mitchell Robert.

**PANELISTS**



**Janet Dawson**  
*Chief Consultant, California State Assembly Transportation Committee*

Janet has been in transportation policy and legislation since 1991. She currently serves as the Chief Consultant for the Assembly Transportation Committee.

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As Chief Consultant since 2007, Janet oversees the operations of the California State Assembly's policy Committee on transportation issues. She advises the Chair, legislators and staff on transportation policy issues. Janet also analyzes legislation pending before the Legislature and assists legislators and staff in developing sound policy.

Prior to her work in the Assembly, Janet was the Legislative Director for the Department of Transportation representing the department to legislators, lobbyists and legislative staff regarding the most complex and sensitive issues facing the department.

She has a Bachelor's of Art degree from the California State University, Sacramento.

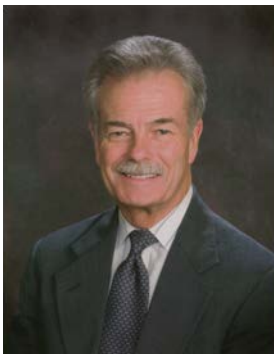


### **Hasan Ikhata**

*Executive Director, Southern California Association of Governments and Board Member, Mobility 21*

Hasan is the Executive Director of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), the largest metropolitan planning organization in the United States. Appointed in January 2008, Hasan has over 25 years of public and private sector experience in Transportation Planning in the Southern California Region. At SCAG Hasan implements the policies of an 86-member Regional Council and directs day-to-day operations of the agency. He is credited with being a transformational and unifying leader who has enhanced SCAG's value to member agencies and fostered unprecedented levels of public input and participation in the development of regional transportation plans.

Prior to joining SCAG in 1994, Hasan worked for the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), and the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). Hasan has received numerous awards and honors from various organizations and agencies for his outstanding leadership and contributions. Hasan holds a Masters Degree in Civil and Industrial Engineering from Zaporozhye University in the former Soviet Union; a Masters degree in Civil Engineering from UCLA and a PhD Candidacy in Urban Planning and Transportation from the University of Southern California in Los Angeles.



### **Will Kempton**

*Executive Director, Transportation California*

Transportation innovator and manager, Will Kempton, has 40 plus years of experience in transportation, public service and government affairs. Will is currently serving as Executive Director of Transportation California, an industry-based transportation advocacy group dedicated to the advancement of California's transportation program. Transportation California is currently working to increase funding for the State's ailing transportation infrastructure.

Will most recently served as Executive Director of the California Transportation Commission (CTC), responsible for advising and assisting the California Legislature and the Administration in the development of transportation policies and plans for California, initiating and developing State and

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Federal legislation to secure funding for California's transportation needs, and facilitating the programming and allocation of funds for highway, passenger rail and transit improvements throughout California.

Throughout Will's career, he has moved between public and private posts, which began at the California State Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in 1973. In 1985, Will assumed the role of Executive Director of the Santa Clara County Traffic Authority, managing its billion-dollar highway construction program, the first of its kind in the state. In 1992, Will became a partner in Smith, Kempton & Watts, a Sacramento advocacy firm where he consulted in programs and policies to enhance effectiveness of public and private resources. In 2004, he was appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger as the Director of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), overseeing an annual operating budget of more than \$13.8 billion and 22,000 employees until 2009. Will spent nearly four years as Chief Executive Officer of the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) from 2009 to 2013, a county-wide transportation agency with more than 1,500 employees and an annual budget of \$1.1 billion.

Will has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of San Francisco and completed graduate studies in Government and Public Administration at California State University, Sacramento. He resides in Folsom, California, with his wife, Beverley. They have four adult children and four grandchildren.



**Bryan Starr**

*Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, Orange County Business Council*

Bryan oversees all aspects of external affairs for the Council including public affairs, government relations and advocacy at the state, federal and local level. Leading OCBC's advocacy team, Bryan develops and implements strategy to advance the Council's county and statewide efforts to enhance investment in infrastructure, increase the supply and range of workforce housing, promote workforce development, stimulate economic development and support healthcare initiatives. In addition to his public policy objectives, Bryan leads OCBC's strategic political operations as Executive Director of OCBC's BIZPAC and serves as the Chairman of OC Jobs Coalition PAC. Bryan has been a private sector policy advocate in Orange County for 15 years and has served at OCBC since 2012. He is a graduate of San Diego State and is a veteran of the United States Coast Guard.