

## **CEO ROUNDTABLE: LEVERAGING MOBILITY**

### **MODERATOR**

#### **Jim Hill**

*Sports Anchor, CBS Los Angeles*

James Webster Hill is a former American football defensive back who played in the National Football League. He is now a Los Angeles-based sportscaster and currently lead sports anchor and sports director at KCBS-TV.

Jim played college football at Texas A&M University–Kingsville (formerly Texas A&I University). Prior to becoming a sportscaster, Jim was a football player, playing for the Green Bay Packers and San Diego Chargers. He has appeared as himself in movies and television shows such as *Rocky III* and *Arliss*.

During his first season as a Green Bay Packer in 1972, Jim started his broadcasting career as a contributor to the Monday and Tuesday evening newscasts of Green Bay station WBAY-TV. After retiring from the NFL, Jim started in 1976 at KCBS-TV (then KNXT), where he was a sports anchor for 11 years. Jim began on the *NFL on CBS* in 1980 as an analyst. But in 1984, 1985, and 1992–93, he was the play-by-play announcer on selected games. He also served as Sideline Reporter for CBS Sports's coverage of the 1984 Super Bowl. He left KCBS in 1987 and spent a near five-year stint at rival KABC-TV, where he anchored the sports segments. He also worked for ABC Sports's coverage of the 1988 Winter Olympics as a Correspondent in Calgary and as Sideline Reporter for the 1988 Super Bowl. He returned to KCBS in March 1992, and has remained there since. In addition to KCBS-TV duties, Jim files sports reports for sister station KCAL-TV. Jim is also one of the hosts for pay-per-view boxing telecasts produced by the Showtime cable network.

A popular broadcast personality in Southern California for years, Jim has been active in community activities. He is a member of the Los Angeles Urban League's board of directors, as well as serving on the board of directors of the Grossman Burn Center in Sherman Oaks, California. He is a spokesman for the City of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation, and is involved in developing youth outreach and fitness programs.

Jim has been honored by the Associated Press, Los Angeles Press Club, United Press International, the California Press Television and Radio Association, and USA Today for his outstanding work in sports reporting.

Jim was honored on May 9, 2006, with the 2,311th star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Colleagues, friends, family and dignitaries such as Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa were in attendance to honor the popular sportscaster. Mayor Villaraigosa declared May 9, 2006, in Los Angeles as "Jim Hill Day."

**PANELISTS**



**Kome Ajise**

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

Kome Ajise is the new executive director of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). He has three decades of experience in regional planning and transportation, most recently as the Director of Planning at SCAG. Prior to working at SCAG, Kome was the Chief Deputy Director at the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), where he was responsible for internal operations, overseeing more than 18,000 employees and a budget in excess of \$1.1 billion. Previously, he was Caltrans' Deputy Director of Planning and Modal Programs and oversaw the Aeronautics, Mass Transportation, Rail, Transportation Planning, Local Assistance, and Research Innovation and System Information Divisions. Kome has a Bachelor of Science degree in Geography and Regional Planning from the University of Benin, Nigeria and a Master of City and Regional Planning degree from California State University, Fresno.



**Mark Baza**

*Executive Director, Imperial County Transportation Commission and Advisory Board Member, Mobility 21*

In May 2010, Mark Baza was appointed as the Executive Director of the Imperial County Transportation Commission (ICTC). ICTC is the Regional Transportation Planning and Transit Agency for Imperial County. ICTC was established as a County Transportation Commission in 2009 under Senate Bill 607 (Ducheny) and became a new agency effective Jan. 1, 2010. Under the direction of the Commission, Mark has led the development of the new agency's organizational structure, staffing and work programs. ICTC is one of six County Transportation Commissions within the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) region.

Additionally, ICTC administers the County's "Measure D" half-cent sales tax program. As one of twenty-four self-help counties in California, ICTC distributes the lion's share of the Measure D funds to each of the seven cities and County of Imperial to complete local road pavement rehabilitation projects; improve pedestrian and bicycle access; improve access as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); and local road operational improvements. The Measure D program also provides local contributions to state highway and transit projects.

Mark has 29 years of experience in the transportation planning and engineering industry. Prior to his position at ICTC, Mark began his career with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 11 for over 21 years.

Mark earned a Bachelor's degree in Urban & Rural Planning Studies from the University of California, San Diego and completed a post-graduate Certificate Program in Transportation Planning for Air Quality at the University of California, Riverside.



**Darrell Johnson**

*CEO, Orange County Transportation Authority and Treasurer, Mobility 21*

Darrell Johnson is the Chief Executive Officer of the Orange County Transportation Authority, leading an agency of 1,400 employees responsible for delivering projects, programs and services that improve mobility for more than 3 million county residents.

Under the direction of OCTA's 17-member Board of Directors, Darrell is responsible for a more than \$1.2 billion annual budget, implementing the planning, financing and coordinating of Orange County's freeway, street and rail development, as well as managing countywide bus services, commuter-rail services, paratransit service and operation of the 91 Express Lanes.

Since becoming CEO in 2013, Darrell has focused on utilizing innovative financing methods to maximize Measure M, Orange County's voter-approved half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements.

By 2020, more than \$3 billion in OCTA projects will be under construction, including the \$1.9 billion I-405 Improvement Project and 405 Express Lanes, the largest ever undertaken by the agency, and the OC Streetcar, Orange County's first modern streetcar.

In addition, Darrell is reinventing Orange County's transit system by delivering services and programs that improve efficiency, enhance the passenger experience and better match market demands. This effort includes an overhaul of the bus system, adding community-based transit services, exploring innovative technology solutions, private-sector partnerships, and piloting on-demand transportation projects.

Darrell represents OCTA on local, state and national policy issues related to successfully planning, financing and delivering transportation programs.

Darrell lives in Rancho Santa Margarita with his wife and two daughters.



**Darren Kettle**

*Executive Director, Ventura County Transportation Commission and Board Member, Mobility 21*

Darren is the Executive Director of the Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC), a position he started in October 2007. The Commission consists of one elected official from each city in the county, the five County Supervisors, and two public members – yes, that means 17 bosses. In his service to VCTC, Darren leads a small but very capable team of transportation professionals focused on improving transportation planning, making data driven decisions to ensure the smart investment of transportation funds on transportation projects, ranging from freeway and highway projects to bicycle and pedestrian projects and bus and rail projects. The Commission also operates Ventura County's intercity public transit system, known as VCTC Intercity, serving public transit riders commuting within Ventura County and into Los Angeles and Santa Barbara counties.

**Closing General Session**  
*Grand Ballroom*

Darren has a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of California, Santa Barbara and a Master's in Public Administration from California State University, San Bernardino. His professional career spans 29 years working for local government and regional transportation agencies. Prior to coming to VCTC he served in several senior positions with the county transportation agencies of Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

Darren and his wife Keri have been married for eight years and when the "circus" is in town they have four kids with them in their home in Camarillo, California.



**Anne Mayer**

*Executive Director, Riverside County Transportation Commission and Board Member, Mobility 21*

As the Executive Director of the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), Anne Mayer leads a staff of 54 with an annual budget of \$878 million. RCTC is the regional transportation agency for Riverside County, the nation's tenth most populous county with a geography roughly the size of New Jersey. Under Anne's leadership, RCTC has delivered on promises made to the voters of Riverside County's Measure A half-cent sales tax measure and ensured that transportation projects and programs support quality of life and the economy in Riverside County. Anne spearheaded the initiation of inland Southern California's first innovative finance and innovative project delivery efforts, which are coming to fruition on State Route 91 and Interstate 15. She has also led the successful delivery of the first FTA Small Starts project in the region: The Perris Valley Line Metrolink Extension, a historic expansion of commuter rail service in Southern California.

Anne is past chairwoman and current board member of the Self-Help Counties Coalition, and Mobility 21, Southern California's public-private transportation advocacy coalition. She is the recipient of the WTS-Inland Empire Chapter's Woman of the Year award and the Athena of Riverside women's leadership award, in addition to numerous other recognitions.

Prior to joining RCTC in 2005, Anne was the Caltrans District 8 Director where she supervised the operations, maintenance and engineering of the largest territory of any Caltrans district in California. Anne is a graduate of Michigan State University and is a Registered Civil Engineer with over 35 years of service in the transportation profession.



**Phillip A. Washington**

*CEO, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority and Board Member, Mobility 21*

Phillip A. Washington was unanimously selected CEO of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) by the Metro Board of Directors on March 12, 2015.

As Metro CEO, Phil manages a total balanced budget of \$7.2 billion for FY20, is responsible for overseeing \$18+ billion in capital projects, and provides oversight of an agency with nearly 11,000 employees that transports 1.2 million boarding passengers daily riding on a fleet of 2,000 clean-air buses and

## Closing General Session Grand Ballroom

six rail lines. LA Metro is the lead transportation planning, programming and financing agency for LA County. As such, it is a major construction agency that oversees bus, rail, highway and other mobility-related infrastructure projects – together representing the largest modern public works program in North America.

Phil was a key leader in the 2016 successful effort to pass a new half-cent sales tax in Los Angeles County, which garnered 71.15 percent voter approval. Measure M will allow Metro to build 40 major highway and transit projects over the next 40 years, create 778,000 jobs and provide \$133.3 billion in economic impact for the region.

Phil came to Los Angeles from Denver where he served as the CEO of Denver Regional Transportation District since 2009, after serving as assistant general manager of RTD for nearly 10 years before being named CEO.

In Denver, Phil led and implemented the FasTracks program, one of the largest voter-approved transportation expansion programs in the country. Under his leadership, Denver's WestCorridor Rail Line project was completed under budget and eight months earlier than scheduled, and the award-winning Denver Union Station project was completed five months early and is realizing tremendous revenue/value capture from the surrounding development.

Also, in Denver, Phil implemented the first and only \$2.2 billion transit public-private partnership (P3), which is still in operation. His emphasis on measuring and managing agency performance led to a nearly 90 percent on-time bus and rail service, and 96 percent ADA on-time performance.

Phil has received numerous prestigious assignments and honors. In 2019, he testified before the U.S. Congressional Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. In 2018, he was awarded the Honorable Ray LaHood Award (former U.S. Secretary of Transportation) by the Women in Transportation Seminar (WTS) for his outstanding contribution in promoting opportunities to advance and advocate for women in the transportation industry. In 2017, he was awarded the Judge Harry Pregerson Public Service Award for his service to U.S. military veterans. In 2016, he was chosen by the National Safety Council as one of the CEOs Who "Get It" – an honor bestowed on CEOs who demonstrate leadership in safety at the highest levels. In 2014, he was selected by the editors of *Engineering News-Record* as one of the Top 25 Newsmakers of 2013. Phil was named 2013-2014 Outstanding Public Transportation CEO of the Year in North America by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA). In 2012, he was awarded a White House Transportation Innovators Champion of Change Award. In 2009, he was appointed by Colorado Governor Bill Ritter to serve on the State of Colorado's Workforce Development Council helping the state create a 21st century workforce. In 2007, he was appointed by the mayor of Denver to head the Host Transportation Committee for the 2008 Democratic National Convention.

Originally from the South Side of Chicago – the Chicago housing projects of Altgeld Gardens – Phil is a 24-year veteran of the United States Army, where he held the rank of Command Sergeant Major, the highest non-commissioned officer ranks an enlisted soldier can achieve. He retired from active duty, as a disabled veteran and was awarded the prestigious Defense Superior Service Medal for exceptional service to his country. He holds a B.A. in Business from Columbia College, an M.A. in Management from Webster University, and is a graduate of the Harvard University Kennedy School for Senior Executives in State and Local Government. He is also a past chair of APTA.



**Stephanie Wiggins**  
*CEO, Metrolink and Board Member, Mobility 21*

Stephanie Wiggins was named chief executive officer of Metrolink by a unanimous vote of the board of directors in December 2018. Stephanie assumed leadership in January 2019 and leads the 275-employee strong commuter railroad with a budget of \$793 million.

As CEO, Stephanie directs an agency that operates a commuter rail network on seven routes across a six-county, 538 route-mile system. Wiggins has held high-level positions at three of the five-member agencies that comprise Metrolink and is well-known as a customer - focused leader who finds solutions from a regional perspective.

Stephanie's vision for the agency is to create value and exceed expectations by prioritizing a customer-first orientation with three pillars to provide an outstanding customer experience: safety and security, an integrated system, and modernizing business practices.

Prior to leading Metrolink, Stephanie was Deputy CEO of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA Metro) where she assisted the CEO in providing leadership and formulating and achieving strategic public transportation objectives, including the passage of Measure M, a half-cent sales tax approved by 71 percent of voters in LA County. During her tenure at LA Metro, Stephanie also served as the Executive Director of Vendor/Contract Management, where she implemented procurement streamlining initiatives and greatly expanded Metro's utilization of small and historically underutilized businesses. Prior to that role, Stephanie was the Executive Officer and Project Director of the Congestion Reduction/ExpressLanes Program where she launched the first high occupancy toll lanes in LA County, the I-10 and I-110 Express Lanes, which improved travel times and travel reliability on two of the County's most congested freeway corridors.

Prior to Metro, she served as Regional Programs Director for the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) and oversaw transit, commuter rail, rideshare, goods movement and rail capital projects.

Stephanie began her career in transportation when she accepted a temporary assignment at the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority and fell in love with the mission of the agency. The six-month temporary assignment turned into more than four years. She then accepted a policy analyst position with the RCTC where she worked for an additional nine and a half years in management and senior management roles.

Feeling the need for personal and academic growth, Stephanie earned a Master of Business Administration from the USC Marshall School of Business in 2007. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration from Whittier College in 1992.

Stephanie is a self-proclaimed "military brat" whose father made his career in the Air Force. She credits her experience moving from base to base and country to country as a child for teaching her the importance of diversity.

Stephanie is the founding president of the Inland Empire Chapter of Women's Transportation Seminar. She is the recipient of many awards including the Conference of Minority

Transportation Officials 2018 Women Who Move the Nation Award. She is a Board Member of the Los Angeles Chapter of Friends of the Children and an Advisory Board Member for the UCLA Lewis Center.



**Dr. Raymond Wolfe**

*Executive Director, San Bernardino County Transportation Authority  
and Chair, Mobility 21*

Dr. Raymond Wolfe is the Executive Director of the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA). He joined SBCTA in April 2012 after spending more than 20 years with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). At Caltrans, Dr. Wolfe served in many capacities, including Director for District 8, covering both San Bernardino and Riverside counties.

Currently, he manages a budget of nearly one billion dollars and oversees the delivery of planning, design and construction of freeway improvements, bridges and railroad crossings; expansion of commuter rail and transit services countywide; management of air quality programs and freeway service patrol; implementation of alternative fuel and energy programs; and, advocating for countywide interests at both the state and federal levels.

Dr. Wolfe received his Doctorate in Civil Engineering from the University of Southern California, a Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Southern California. He is a Registered Civil Engineer and a Registered Mechanical Engineer in California. This year, Dr. Wolfe was recognized by USC's Department of Civil Engineering with the Distinguished Alumni Award.