

PM 2: Transportation Innovation: What Lies Ahead?

Magic Kingdom 2

MODERATOR



Maria Salinas

President & CEO, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce and Board Member, Mobility 21

Maria S. Salinas is the President & CEO of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, the largest business association in Los Angeles County representing more than 1,600 member companies and serving the interests of more than 235,000 businesses across the Los Angeles region. Maria took the helm of the organization in August of 2018 and became the first woman and Latina to lead the Chamber in its 130-year history. An accomplished businesswoman, entrepreneur and a stalwart community leader, Maria's business acumen and financial expertise provides her with the right experience to lead the L.A. Chamber.

In her new role, Maria is committed to amplify the voice of business in all aspects of public policy, growth in emerging sectors and global expansion. Under her leadership, the Chamber has focused on key strategic initiatives including expanding its advocacy for a business-friendly environment, promoting the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship throughout the region, and expanding global influence.

Maria represents the Los Angeles business community in state-wide policy initiatives with the Coalition of Regional Economic Association Leaders (R.E.A.L.), she is a member of the Board of Directors of Mobility 21, a regional transportation effort, and was appointed by Mayor Garcetti to the MEXLA Commission, a foreign policy initiative between Mexico and Los Angeles. She also serves on the Board of Directors of Pacific Council, Southern California Leadership Network, Unite-LA, Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation, Los Angeles County Business Federation and the Los Angeles Sports Council.

Prior to the LA Chamber, Maria was an entrepreneur having founded Salinas Consulting, a finance and accounting consultancy firm. Previously, she held financial leadership roles with The Walt Disney Company, including responsibility for global financial reporting for the Consumer Products division. Maria began her career in public accounting with the firms of Ernst & Young and Kenneth Leventhal & Company.

As a corporate director, Maria is former Chairwoman of ProAmérica Bank, a community bank in Los Angeles, where she was a Founding Organizer and Director, serving since the bank's inception in 2005. She held a variety of leadership roles on the Board including Chair of the Audit Committee prior to being appointed Chairwoman. Maria led the merger transaction with Pacific Commerce Bank which successfully closed in 2016.

Maria is a graduate of Loyola Marymount University (LMU), earning a Bachelor of Science in Accounting in 1987. She is currently Chair of the Board of Regents and member of the Board of Trustees at LMU, Board Chair of UnidosUS, and member of the founding Board of Directors of Kaiser Permanente School of Medicine. Over the years, she has served numerous esteemed civic and nonprofit organizations and has been recognized for her leadership and community service.

Maria lives in Pasadena, California, with her husband Raul, a prominent Los Angeles attorney, and their four sons.

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PANELISTS



Jon Damush

Director, New Business Ventures, Boeing NeXt, The Boeing Company

Jon Damush is senior director of new business ventures for Boeing NeXt, a business division building the ecosystem that will define the future of urban, regional and global mobility. He is responsible for collaboration with third parties to advance Boeing's future mobility initiatives, including oversight of the SkyGrid joint venture that is developing a software platform for the safe integration of unmanned and autonomous vehicles into the global airspace.

Jon was formerly the chief growth officer for Insitu, Inc., a Boeing subsidiary whose unmanned products have more than 1.3 million operational flight hours. During his tenure at Insitu, he established the commercial business unit and oversaw the strategy and marketing functions of the company. Jon came to Insitu through Boeing's acquisition of 2d3 Sensing, where he was president and CEO.

He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical and aerospace engineering and a master's degree in business administration from the University of California, Irvine. He is also a licensed commercial pilot and certified flight instructor.



Dr. Aravind Kailas

Research and Innovation Manager, Volvo Group

Dr. Aravind Kailas specializes in translating tech trends and societal needs into business strategy and innovation. He has worked at the Volvo Group for over five years, strengthening organic innovation and public affairs initiatives through cross-sector partnerships. By promoting the company's creative assets and key technology positions in various fora, he has been instrumental in establishing the Volvo Group as a trusted thought leader in California. Dr. Kailas created a unique regional partnership to assess air quality improvements along freight corridors near the ports, and spearheaded local partner development for the Volvo electric truck roll-out in the U.S. Author of over 100 publications and quoted in many media outlets, Dr. Kailas has delivered more than 50 invited talks globally, and served on numerous R&D jury panels, advisory boards of nonprofit organizations and academic institutions. His scholarly work has been recognized by numerous accolades, including the Patricia F. Waller and Deborah Freund Awards from the Transportation Research Board. He has earned degrees in Applied Mathematics and Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Georgia Institute of Technology.

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Jimmy Kim

Head of Transportation and Mobility, Verizon Smart Communities

Jimmy Kim is Head of Transportation and Mobility for Verizon's Smart Communities. In this role, Jimmy leads go-to-market activities and customer engagement to address the increasingly complex smart infrastructure requirements of a diverse market, including state and local governments, campuses, and large venues. Jimmy is a seasoned technology solutions executive with a successful track record of bringing disruptive technologies to the marketplace, including IOT, big data, enterprise mobility and mobile payments. He has spearheaded large scale business transformations across Asia, North America and Europe in multiple leadership roles at Samsung, Accenture and smaller ventures. Jimmy graduated with a BS in Electrical Engineering from Cornell University.



Brian Kelly

CEO, California High-Speed Rail Authority

On Jan. 16, 2018, the Board of Directors selected Brian P. Kelly as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the California High-Speed Rail Authority. He comes to the Authority with a wealth of experience in transportation. Brian served as the first secretary of the new California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA), an agency created in 2013, which focused solely on transportation. At CalSTA, Brian oversaw eight departments, boards and commissions, 38,000 employees and a budget of \$18.1 billion – one of the largest portfolios in the state of California.

At CalSTA, he was responsible for a variety of complex transportation issues which directly impacted almost every Californian, the state's economy, public safety, highway construction and maintenance, and public transit. During his tenure, his many accomplishments included passing Senate Bill 1 (SB 1), the single largest investment in California's transportation infrastructure, moving forward the nation's first state rulemaking to allow the test and deployment of autonomous vehicles, and breaking ground on the first high-speed rail system in the nation in California's Central Valley.

Prior to that, Brian had spent almost two decades at the center of major transportation policy decisions in the state of California by serving four successive Senate President pro Tempores. He was executive staff director for Senate President pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg from 2008 to 2012. He was executive principal consultant for Senate President pro Tempore Don Perata from 2004 to 2008, principal consultant for Senate President pro Tempore John Burton from 1998 to 2004, and assistant consultant for Senate President pro Tempore Bill Lockyer from 1995 to 1998.

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Ryan Kelly

Head of Global Marketing and Communications, Virgin Hyperloop One

Ryan oversees global marketing and communications for Virgin Hyperloop One and supports the commercialization of hyperloop technology through strategic global campaigns.

Ryan gained knowledge and expertise in digital strategy and marketing from years spent consulting with hundreds of brands at companies large and small.

Ryan worked at The New York Times on one of the first integrated advertising teams, as well as WPP, one of the first advertising networks, and was the Digital Director at Media-Corps, managing a 6 billion impression per month network. Pivoting to the agency realm, as a partner at GWNewYork, he oversaw digital strategy, buying, and planning for B/S/H appliance brands and various others. Other clients included Salesforce, Oracle, Lufthansa, American Express and Bose.

Ryan also teaches marketing strategy to Fortune 1000 companies through General Assembly and was named a 40 under 40 leader for Los Angeles county. He holds a BA in Advertising and BS in Marketing from Syracuse University.