

MODERATOR



Maria S. Salinas

President & CEO, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce and Treasurer, 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 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.

Maria, a steward of the Chamber's new mission, "A Thriving Region for All" is redefining the Chamber's focus through three pillars: Advocacy, Global Engagement, and Community Collaboration for Economic Growth & Mobility, in order to amplify the voice of business while ensuring an inclusive economy.

Maria represents the Los Angeles business community in state-wide policy initiatives with the Coalition of Regional Economic Association Leaders. She is a member of the Board of Directors of Mobility 21, and was appointed by Mayor Garcetti to the MEXLA Commission, a foreign policy initiative between Mexico and Los Angeles. Maria 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.

PANELISTS



Keith Dunn

Executive Director, Self-Help Counties Coalition

With over 20 years of experience, Keith Dunn has been involved in every major transportation policy development or funding issue in Sacramento over nearly the past two decades. Keith serves as the Executive Director of the Self-Help Counties Coalition (SHCC). As the organization representing 25 county transportation agencies, the SHCC and its member agencies are dedicated to keeping the public's confidence by delivering voter-approved transportation sales tax measures throughout California. In doing so, SHCC seeks to inform public policy to facilitate the ability of the state to meet its transportation

infrastructure needs, as demonstrated by the delivery by member agencies of billions of dollars each year in multimodal transportation improvements that support connectivity, economic growth, and air quality objectives.

Keith maintains close working relationships with Governor Newsom, the California's State Assembly and Senate, as well as the California Department of Transportation and California Transportation Commission.

Let's Talk Revenue

Friday, September 18, 2020 (9:00 AM to 10:00 AM)



Darrell E. Johnson

CEO, Orange County Transportation Authority and Vice Chairman, Mobility 21

Darrell E. 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 \$1.4 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.

More than \$3 billion in OCTA projects are 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.



Steven Keck

CFO, Caltrans

Steven Keck is the Deputy Director for Finance and the Chief Financial Officer for the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). He has served in this role since 2018 and prior to this, was the Chief Budget Officer for the Department since 2009. As Chief Financial Officer, Steven is responsible for the Department's \$15.5 billion annual budget, Accounting, Financial Programming, Asset Management, and the SB1 and Road Charge Programs. Steven started at Caltrans in 2000 when he began working on funding for the state's extensive Toll Bridge Seismic Retrofit Program. For the past 20 years, he has held increasingly responsible roles in Finance at Caltrans, and more than two years in acting assignments in other areas of the department. Steven began his civil service career at the California Department Forestry and Fire Protection (now CalFire), managing the capital outlay program for fire station replacement.

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Steven earned his degree in resource management from Humboldt State University in 1997 before beginning his career of civil service with the state of California. In his free time, he enjoys striving for “continuous improvement” at golf and tinkering with electronics and vintage watches.



Thomas F. Prendergast

America's Transit Market Leader, AECOM

Tom Prendergast is a career public transportation professional with over 45 years of service in both the public and private sectors. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois with a degree in systems engineering, specializing in urban transportation. He has served as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority as well as President at New York City Transit and Long Island Rail Road and CEO of Translink in Vancouver.

In those roles, Tom was instrumental in establishing high level policies and strategic plans regarding governance structures, fares, and finances to effectively carry out their missions. A significant component of those efforts was a specific focus on revenue mechanisms to fund operating budgets for the delivery of services and capital programs, for state-of-good-repair and system expansion needs. These revenue sources needed to be sustainable over the longer term and supported by all the stakeholders having an interest in the public transport system for the service area involved.

Tom believes that the current funding challenges facing the industry are unprecedented and that addressing them will require a concerted effort by all stakeholders across the transportation, energy, sustainability, climate change and social equity spectrums.



Stephanie N. 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 258-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. Stephanie 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 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 the founding president of the Inland Empire Chapter of Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS). She is the recipient of many awards including the WTS Orange County

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Chapter's 2019 Woman of the Year Award and 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, the LA Division of the American Heart Association, the Greater Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, the American Public Transportation Foundation, the Los Angeles Speech & Language Therapy Center, and an Advisory Board Member for the UCLA Lewis Center.