

AM 4: Geopolitics to Local Politics: Goods Movement SoCal Magic Kingdom 4

MODERATOR



Stephanie N. Wiggins

Chief Executive Officer, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority and Chair, Mobility 21

The Board of Directors of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) unanimously voted to hire Stephanie Wiggins as Metro's CEO on April 8, 2021. A lifelong trailblazer and champion of equity and inclusion, Wiggins is the first woman and African-American woman to lead the agency. As CEO of Metro, she oversees an agency that runs the third-busiest transit system in the United States, with an annual budget of \$9 Billion and 11,000 employees, and serves as the lead transportation planning, programming, financing, and construction agency for the 10.1 million residents of LA County. Before rejoining Metro as CEO in June 2021, Wiggins served as the CEO of Metrolink, the nation's third-largest passenger rail system covering 538 route-miles throughout Southern California.

Prior to serving as CEO of Metrolink, Wiggins was the Deputy CEO of Metro, where she assisted the CEO in providing leadership and achieving strategic public transportation objectives, including the passage in 2016 of Measure M, a half-cent sales tax approved by 71 percent of LA County voters. She also established the Women and Girls Governing Council. During her tenure at Metro, Wiggins also served as the Executive Director of Vendor/Contract Management, where she implemented procurement streamlining initiatives and greatly expanded Metro's contracting of small and historically underutilized businesses. Prior to that role, Wiggins 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 on the I-10 and I-110 which improved travel times, reduced pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions, on two of the County's most congested freeway corridors.

With a deep and genuine commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion, Wiggins strives to provide all people living in Southern California equal access to mobility to get to work, school, healthcare and leisure activities. Achieving that goal depends on leading an organization that is as diverse and inclusive as the region it serves.

PANELISTS



Mario Cordero

Executive Director, Port of Long Beach

Mario Cordero, an international maritime industry leader, Long Beach resident and attorney, is Chief Executive Officer of the Port of Long Beach, California, named to the post by the Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners in May 2017.

Beginning in 2003, Mario served as a member, vice president and president of the Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners for eight years, before resigning to accept President Barack Obama's appointment to the Federal Maritime

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Commission in 2011. He served on the FMC until May 2017 and was FMC Chairman from April 2013 to January 2017.

As Chief Executive Officer, Mario reports to the Board and leads the Port's Harbor Department staff of more than 500 with a budget of \$634.5 million for the 2023 fiscal year.

He is the Port's representative to the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority Governing Board and the Governing Board of the Intermodal Container Transfer Facility-Joint Powers Authority. Mario was elected to a two-year term as Chairman of the Board for the American Association of Port Authorities in 2020 following a term as Vice Chairman, and previously served as an Executive Board member on AAPA's Latin American delegation. He sits on the L.A. County Economic Resiliency Task Force – charged with helping guide the County's approach to reopening as the region emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic – as chair of the Commodities and Goods Movement sector working group.

In 2021, Mario was appointed by the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco to serve on the bank's Los Angeles branch seven-member board of directors and, in 2023, for the third consecutive year he was named to the Los Angeles Business Journal's "LA500" list of the city's most influential civic leaders.

Mario has practiced law for more than 30 years, specializing in workers' compensation cases. He holds a law degree from the University of Santa Clara and a Bachelor of Science in political science from California State University, Long Beach.

He has taught Political Science at Long Beach City College, focusing on California politics, and served on the City of Long Beach Community Development Commission. He also was Vice Chair of the City-commissioned Long Beach Ethics Task Force that developed a Code of Ethics for Long Beach City employees, as well as elected and appointed City officials.



Kristin Decas

CEO & Port Director, Port of Hueneme and Advisory Board Member, Mobility 21

Kristin Decas took the helm of the Port of Hueneme in 2012 with a laser focus on prospering economic, environmental and community enrichment.

On Kristin's watch trade volumes have grown 77% and revenue has climbed 127%. The Port's total economic activity has soared 175% increasing from \$800 million to \$2.2 billion. Trade related jobs have jumped 96% from 10,200 to over 20,000 jobs and tax revenues for vital community services have risen 224%. Despite COVID-19 and subsequent global supply chain disruptions in 2022, the Port realized its strongest sustained trade year since its inception in 1937 moving over \$15 billion in cargo value.

Since Kristin took the CEO post, the Port has invested over \$70M in environmental improvement projects including shoreside power plug-ins for vessels and cranes, harbor deepening projects which re-nourish local beaches, and the launch of a world-class air quality monitoring program. She also championed impactful community work including food drives for over 45,000 families, local school trade programs, and thousands of port tours for the community.

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Kristin currently serves on high profile county, state and federal transportation, economic development, and hospital boards. Kristin lives in Oxnard with her husband and is the proud mother of two daughters.



Fran Inman

Senior Vice President, Majestic Realty Co. and Advisory Board Member, Mobility 21

Fran Inman, Senior Vice President, directs government relations and external affairs activities for Majestic Realty Co., one of the nation's largest privately held real estate development companies. With a real estate portfolio totaling approximately 84 million square feet of commercial properties, Majestic Realty has offices in Los Angeles; Atlanta; Bethlehem, Dallas, Denver, Fort Worth, Las Vegas, Laredo and Phoenix.

Fran served on the California Transportation Commission from 2010 to 2021 and recently completed a two-year term as Chair and two years as Vice Chair (2016-2020). In 2013, Fran was also appointed as a founding member of the National Freight Advisory Committee and co-chaired the sub-committee on project delivery and operations.

Fran served as the chair of the board of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce and serves as vice chair for the California Business Properties Association (CBPA). She is the former chair of the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership (SGVEP) and is also a founding board member of FuturePorts and a board member of Inland Action and the California Business Roundtable. She is also a long-time member of the Coalition of America's Gateway and Trade Corridors.

Also recognized as a leader in the philanthropic community, Fran is the founding president of the Majestic Realty Foundation. Established in 2002, the Majestic Realty Foundation provides grants and other support to various charitable community partners that work the areas of youth, family, education, health, and violence prevention in the communities where Majestic Realty Co. does business.

Fran further demonstrates her commitment to active community engagement through her service as board member and former board chair of THINK Together, nationally-recognized non-profit providing extended learning programs that serve more than 150,000 at-risk and low-income students daily across California. She serves on the board of QueensCare, a \$400 million foundation dedicated to providing healthcare for the underserved. Fran is also a trustee for Three Square, the regional food bank in Las Vegas, Nevada, and serves on the board of trustees for the University of Redlands as well as a member of METRANS and the UC-ITS Advisory Boards. Fran also serves on the Executive Committee of The Los Angeles World Affairs Council and Town Hall.

A graduate of California State University, Fullerton, Fran holds both a BA and a MBA in finance. In 2010, Fran was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Business Administration from Woodbury University. She was recently awarded the Peter Drucker Award for Excellence in Logistics and the California Trucking Association Annual Leadership in Logistics Award.

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Eugene D. Seroka

Executive Director, Port of Los Angeles and Advisory Board Member, Mobility 21

Gene Seroka is the Executive Director of the Port of Los Angeles, the busiest container port in North America. Confirmed by Los Angeles City Council in June 2014, the Port has experienced a series of historic, record-breaking performances since his appointment.

As Executive Director, Gene interacts with a wide range of stakeholders, including Port customers around the globe, industry partners, elected and appointed officials at all levels, business leaders and local residents. A respected global trade expert, Gene has advocated for rules-based trade agreements that benefit American exporters and manufacturers.

Since the pandemic-induced buying surge generated by American consumers in the second half of 2020, the Port of Los Angeles has eclipsed multiple monthly cargo records and recorded eight out of 10 highest-performing quarters in its 115-year history. The Port set two new milestones for the Western Hemisphere in June 2021 as the first port to process 10 million Twenty-Foot Equivalent Units (TEUs) in a 12-month period and in May 2021 the first port to process 1 million TEUs in a single month.

Gene has distinguished himself as a leader throughout his illustrious career in shipping, global logistics and executive management. He received the esteemed Stanley T. Olafson Award from the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce in 2023, recognizing his work in the world trade industry and leadership of the nation's busiest container port. The Containerization & Intermodal Institute named Gene the 2021 recipient of the Connie Award, one of the most coveted honors in the maritime industry. Lloyd's List has recognized Gene as the preeminent source on the supply chain, which earned him a spot in the 2021 Top 100 most influential people in shipping. Also in 2021, the Inland Empire Economic Partnership honored Gene with its Lifetime Achievement Award, recognizing decades of leadership and accomplishments in the supply chain, logistics and maritime industry. Gene has been named one of the most influential people in Los Angeles by the Los Angeles Business Journal and featured on the LA500 list each year since 2016.

In 2020, Supply Chain Dive named Gene Executive of the Year for his leadership throughout the pandemic. Throughout the pandemic, Gene—who lived in China during the 2002-2004 SARS epidemic—led the Port's response to the global health crisis, keeping cargo flowing as an essential service to the nation. In March 2020, former Mayor Eric Garcetti named Gene the Chief Logistics Officer for the City of Los Angeles, while concurrently serving as the Port's Executive Director.

As chief of America's top port, he is responsible for managing a \$2 billion budget, advancing major capital projects, growing trade volume and promoting innovative, sustainable practices that strengthen the region's economy. Under his direction, the Port has taken a leadership role in adopting cutting-edge technologies to improve the reliability, predictability and efficiency of the flow of cargo across global seaborne trade. In 2017, Gene oversaw the Port's launch of the first-of-its-kind digital information portal, Port Optimizer™, and has championed for ports around the world to share critical supply chain data and analytics.

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While serving as Executive Director, Gene has been appointed to serve on four federal committees to enhance the speed and efficiency of cargo movement and supply chain optimization, including the U.S. Department of Commerce Advisory Committee on Supply Chain Competitiveness, U.S. Maritime Administration Marine Transportation System National Advisory Committee, Federal Maritime Commission Supply Chain Innovation Team and U.S. Department of Transportation Bureau of Transportation's former Port Performance Freight Statistics Working Group. He currently serves on the Boards of Directors for the California Association of Port Authorities, American Association of Port Authorities and Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority.

Gene's footing in the maritime industry was established as a sales support representative at American President Lines (APL) Limited's Cincinnati office in 1988. After several key overseas positions in China, Indonesia, Singapore and the United Arab Emirates, he returned to the U.S. in 2010 to become President – Americas for the shipping line in Phoenix where he managed APL's Liner Shipping business, including 1,000 employees, and was responsible for all commercial, port terminal, intermodal, land transportation and labor activities throughout the region.

Gene holds an MBA and Bachelor of Science in Marketing from the University of New Orleans.