

DIRECTOR AB 1234 REPORT

Director Name: Daniel R. Mortensen (No Per Diem)

Meeting Attended: City of Santa Clarita Economic Development Update

Date of Meeting: 7-20-2021

Board Meeting to Be Presented At: August 3, 2021

Points Of Interest: Jason Crawford and Monica Fawcett presented an update on local economic development as we emerge from the covid collapse. An increase in local filming, real estate development, and new businesses is helping Santa Clarita to move back towards 2019 levels. It was hosted by Kathy Norris of N.T.A.

Please Attach Agenda or Brochure if Available. This has the wrong date on it, but is the agenda that was distributed at the July 20 luncheon



VALLEY INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION  
ADVOCATE.EDUCATE.INNOVATE.

**Valley Industry Association  
General Luncheon Meeting  
Friday, June 25, 2021  
Agenda**

1. **Call to Order and Flag Salute:** Hillary Broadwater
2. **Welcome & Introduction of Dignitaries:** Kathy Norris
3. **Program:**

**City of Santa Clarita Economic Development Update  
“Some Good News!”**

The Valley Industry Association is pleased to host **Jason Crawford**, Acting Community Development Director and **Monica Fawcett**, Interim Economic Development Associate, City of Santa Clarita as keynote speakers at today’s luncheon meeting.

They will share updates about economic development in our City and the exciting momentum Santa Clarita is experiencing as we emerge from the pandemic.

Santa Clarita is showing excellent activity in all sectors and is on the way to recovery – and that is some very good news!

4. **Special Drawing:** Kathy Norris

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AB1234 Report  
Lynne Plambeck  
So Cal Water Dialogue  
7-28-21, 12 noon  
Virtual meeting

**“Investments in Drought-Proofing are Paying Off in Southern California. But How Long Will Supplies Last if Drought Persists?”**

Now that extreme drought is gripping most of California, Southern California stands apart with ample storage and water supply – for now. How did the region accomplish this? Lake Meade is at record lows, the lowest it has been since the 1930s. What happens when the two years of stored water is depleted? What steps need to be taken to keep ahead of the drought and reach the full levels of water-use efficiency required by state legislation?

The enviable position of Southern California is no accident. Years of investment in local projects such as desalination in Carlsbad, the renowned Orange County Groundwater Replenishment System and conservation is shielding the region.

- **Mike Markus, General Manager, Orange County Water District**
- **Dan Denham, Deputy General Manager, San Diego County Water Authority**
- **Tracy Quinn, P.E. Director, California Urban Water Policy, Healthy People and Thriving Communities, National Resources Defense Council**

**Speakers :**

Tracy Quinn, P.E.

Director @California Urban Water Policy, Healthy People and Thriving Communities, National Resources Defense Council

Tracy Quinn is the Director of California Urban Water Policy for the Natural Resource Defense Council (NRDC) where she focuses on the unique efficiency challenges and opportunities that face California as it responds to unprecedented drought. She also currently represents the City of Los Angeles on the Board of the Metropolitan Water District. Prior to joining NRDC, Tracy worked as a civil engineer in Southern California where her practice areas encompassed a wide range of water-related issues, including resources planning, infrastructure design, and NPDES compliance. She earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in agricultural and biological engineering at Cornell University and is a registered civil engineer in California. We started the year with records levels of storage. But if the drought continues for another year, this might not be enough. We should start encourage more conservation now. With climate change this drought may be longer and more severe than in the past. Discussed the link between water and hydropower. Water conservation saves energy too. Conservation is the most cost effective way to meet our needs. City of LA has 78 gpd per capita use. Good conservation. We need to reduce outdoor water use. We need strong and consistent conservation messaging. Stop watering useless turf. We we are in a drought, it is a great time to talk to customers about water efficiency.

Dan Denham (Spoke second)

Deputy General Manager @San Diego County Water Authority

As Deputy General Manager, Dan oversees the day-to-day operations of the Water Authority including the agency's water supply planning, engineering, and operations and maintenance functions. In addition, he directs imported water policy matters and the implementation of long-term water conservation projects associated with the Quantification Settlement Agreement. Prior to his 15 years at the Water Authority, Dan served for 10 years in various capacities at the City of San Diego in wastewater and financial management. He holds undergraduate degrees in public administration and economics, and a graduate degree in public administration from San Diego State University where also

serves on the SDSU Alumni Board of Advisors. 2 member agencies, 36 Board members Vast majority of water comes from the Colorado River through IIUD. 24% is potable re-use. Water conservation is hard-wired into their residences. Learned a lot from the 1990 drought, started diversification. They don't have ground water, the last time they could survive with ground water was 1940s. Future of water in the area will be potable re-use. All the cheap supply is gone, so future water will cost more.

Michael R. Markus, P.E., D. WRE, BCEE, F.ASCE (spoke first)  
General Manager @Orange County Water District

Mike Markus is the general manager of the Orange County Water District. With over 40 years of experience, Mike is well known for his expertise in large project implementation and water resource management. During his 33-year career at the District, Mike has been responsible for managing the implementation of the \$480 million Groundwater Replenishment System (GWRS) program and oversight of the \$142 million GWRS Initial Expansion project. This 100 million gallon per day advanced water purification facility is the largest potable reuse plant in the world and has won many awards including the 2008 Stockholm Industry Water Award, 2009 ASCE Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award, 2014 U.S. Water Prize and 2014 Lee Kuan Yew Prize. Mike also currently serves on the Boards of Directors of the California Section of the WaterReuse Association, American Water Works Association and is the Chairman of the Water Research Foundation. Supplies groundwater to 19 retail water districts. A coastal aquifer. First agency to inject recycled water into the aquifer to stop salt water intrusion. If they have too low an inflow, they would have subsidence. They have the largest reuse project in the world. The water is so clean, that they would have trouble with leaching, so must addlime to equalize the Ph.

The next Water Dialogue meeting will be on Wednesday, Sept. 22.