Los Angeles Council Candidates Speak to Business Leaders at VICA's Newsmaker Connection

"Measure S is a bad formula in addressing the housing crisis."

- Monica Rodriguez (Los Angeles Council District 7 Candidate)

Stop the Housing Ban in LA, SFVBJ, February 6

What New South Coast AQMD Smog Rules Could Mean for Future Businesses, Southern California Public Radio, February 3

Today, VICA members gathered for a special Newsmaker Connection as the top candidates for Council District 7 gathered to discuss issues affecting businesses across the San Fernando Valley, including transportation, homelessness and development. Both candidates discussed the importance in doing what is right for business and the community. Monica Rodriguez mentioned, "small business is the backbone of the economy." Her counterpart Karo Torossian expressed how businesses need certainty. "We need to simplify rules in order to create certainty." After the candidates answered the moderator's questions, they fielded questions from VICA members regarding Measure S and Measure H and how to properly address the issues both measures aim to achieve. Thank you to State Farm Insurance for being the presenting sponsor of the event.

Join VICA for Hockey Night!
Ban on Housing Development Will Cost Jobs and Harm Residents Across Los Angeles

Measure S proposes a two year building moratorium in the City of Los Angeles. This will potentially ban any new housing developments in the city where homelessness has become a critical issue affecting all Angelenos. If passed, Measure S will cost the city over 12,000 jobs and nearly 2 billion in economic output in a single year. The city of Los Angeles needs jobs and housing. Shutting down development for two years will drive construction jobs out of Los Angeles and leave thousands of Angelenos homeless.

VICA remains a powerful voice in the No on Measure S Coalition and calls on all VICA members to take action against this harmful ballot measure and vote no on Measure S in March.
Labor & Employment Committee
Wednesday, March 8
8:30 to 10 a.m.
VICA Office
16600 Sherman Way,
Suite 170
Click here to RSVP

Transportation Committee
Tuesday, March 14
8 to 10 a.m.
The Garland
4222 Vineland Ave,
North Hollywood
4222 Vineland Avenue
Click here to RSVP

VICA Hockey Night
Tuesday, March 14
7:30 to 10 p.m.
Staples Center
1111 S. Figueroa St,
Los Angeles
Sponsored by AEG
Click here to RSVP

Government Affairs Committee Meeting
Wednesday, March 15
Noon to 1:30 p.m.
Providence Tarzana Medical Center
18321 Clark St,
Tarzana
Click here to RSVP

Leaders Forum with Los Angeles Department of Water & Power General Manager David Wright
Friday, March 17
8:30 to 10 a.m.
The Garland
4222 Vineland Ave, North Hollywood
Click here to RSVP

Hot Issues
Education
A proposal introduced on Thursday by two state senators would chip away at the billions of dollars' worth of facility upgrades at UC and Cal State campuses. The measure would authorize the sale of $2 billion in general obligation bonds specifically meant for higher education facilities.

Development
A Los Angeles lawmaker wants to make it harder for cities and counties to slow development in their communities. AB 943 increases the threshold from a simple majority to a two-thirds supermajority for

Register Today for VICA's Leaders Forum!

Los Angeles Department of Water & Power General Manager David Wright
Friday, March 17, 2017
8:30 to 10 a.m.
The Garland
4222 Vineland Ave, North Hollywood

Reserve your spot for VICA's upcoming Leaders Forum presented by The Garland and Englander Knabe & Allen. Tickets to this event are $60. For more information regarding sponsorships, contact Helene at Helene@vica.com

RSVP Today!

Click here to RSVP for VICA's Leaders Forum.

VICA Welcomes New Legislative Affairs Manager
Sarah Golden will be serving as VICA's newest Legislative Affairs Manager. She will be overseeing VICA's land use, labor and employment, and healthcare committees. Sarah received her Juris Doctor from Tulane University Law School and Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a concentration in American Politics from Tulane University. She brings legislative experience in both the government and non-profit sectors. Sarah was raised in the Valley and is looking forward to advocating for its business community. Sarah lives in Calabasas and enjoys exploring the area's hiking trails with her husband, Michael and two dogs, Olive and Jackson.

Committee Reports
Aviation Committee (2/8)
Hosted by Aeroplex Aerolease

- Dennis Roberts, the new Regional FAA Administrator, updated the Aviation Committee on various issues around Southern California.
- Mark Hardyment (Hollywood-Burbank Airport) provided an update on the new terminal building and timelines following the passage of Measure B.
- The Committee discussed H.R. 550, which would require law enforcement officers to be stationed by TSA checkpoints at large airports.

Energy, Environment & Utilities Committee (2/9)
Hosted by Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
passage of any local ballot measure that would block or delay development.

Healthcare
On Friday, a bill was introduced that would create a single-payer healthcare system in California. A single-payer system would likely tax employees and employers and the state agency would combine that money with the funds California currently has for Medicaid, Medicare and other health programs.

Employment
Under a new proposed law introduced this week at the state Capitol, Californians would get a day off from work on election day. AB 674 would add each November’s election to the list of holidays celebrated under state law.

Uduak-Joe Ntuk, Petroleum Administrator for the City of Los Angeles, explained what this new position will be responsible for and his planned activities over the coming months.

The Committee received an update from Lenise Marrero, LA Sanitation, on the One Water LA Project.

Rebecca Andreassen, City of Los Angeles, and David Hodgins, Better Building Challenge, updated building owners on how to comply with the new Water and Energy Efficiency in Existing Buildings ordinance, which will require annual benchmarking.

Land Use Committee (2/14)
Hosted by The Garland

The Land Use Committee heard an update on the FivePoint Newhall Ranch project from Don Kimball.

Larry Green, Westfield Corp., presented information about Westfield Promenade 2035 project, which the Committee recommended to support.

The Committee heard from Lisa Webber and Jan Zatorski, LA City Planning Department, about potential fee changes. The Committee recommended to support these changes if certain amendments were included.

Government Affairs Committee (2/15)
Hosted by Providence Tarzana Medical Center

The Committee heard an update from Luis Echivarri, City of Los Angeles Office of Wage Standards, about the "Fair Chances in Hiring" or 'Ban the Box' ordinance banning employers from asking about applicants' criminal history.

The Committee recommended to oppose a proposal by Councilmember Mike Bonin to introduce a public campaign financing system in Los Angeles.

The Committee discussed and tabled H.R. 5, the Regulatory Accountability Act, and AB 168, a ban on employers asking about salary history.

Member Messages:
Get Your Message in VICA Weekly!

VICA members can promote their business, events and news in VICA Weekly. Member messages are available for $50 per week or $175 for four weeks. Messages are text-based and may not contain more than 70 words. A logo may be added for an additional $5 per week. For more information or to schedule your member message, contact Helene@vica.com or call (818) 817-0545.

ABOUT VICA
Presenting the business perspective on behalf of employers in the San Fernando Valley cities of Los Angeles, Burbank, Glendale, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, San Fernando and Santa Clarita.

Read more about VICA at vica.com:

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