VICA ENSURES THAT THE
SAN FERNANDO VALLEY BUSINESS COMMUNITY
HAS A STRONG AND INFLUENTIAL VOICE
CHAIRMAN’S MESSAGE

Where did the two years go? I’ve had an incredible run as Chairman of the Valley Industry and Commerce Association, and it’s now time to pass the gavel to new Chairman Kevin Tamaki. I do so with a sense of pride in what VICA and our members have been able to accomplish in our advocacy for the betterment of the San Fernando Valley.

The Valley faces some critical issues in the coming years, and I know that VICA and its leadership are well-prepared to face them head on with great determination. In the next year, we’ll see decisions made that could shape the San Fernando Valley for decades.

VICA will continue to be a strong voice as we work with the County’s leaders to make sure the Valley gets its fair share of transportation investment. Valley on Track, the coalition organized for this purpose, enjoys support from our local leaders for our three main priorities: improving the Metro Orange Line busway, with an eventual conversion to light rail; constructing the East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor as a rail system; and connecting the Westside to the Valley with a rail transit tunnel through the Sepulveda Pass.

Looking forward, we’ll continue our advocacy in the effort to bring the Olympics back to Los Angeles in 2024. Having the Olympics would shine a positive spotlight on the region, including the Valley, where a number of events would take place.

Over the past two years, we’ve seen tremendous progress on many of VICA’s other goals as well, such as pushing the city of Los Angeles to repeal the gross business receipts tax and to form a comprehensive jobs plan. We’ve also argued for, and received, funding for small-business development at the county level, which is an important first step in giving Los Angeles County a more business-friendly atmosphere.

As we prepare to face the challenges ahead, I’m looking forward to not only continuing the organization’s long tradition of success in pro-business advocacy, but also pushing forward with the help of local, state and federal officials to create a better quality of life in the San Fernando Valley.

Coby King
2014-15 VICA Chairman
High Point Strategies, LLC
L.A. City Council Sees Need for Comprehensive Jobs Plan

VICA has advocated on behalf of members and worked with city and county of Los Angeles officials for years to spur the creation of a strategy for attracting job growth and nascent industries to the region, as well as discourage L.A.-based companies from relocating elsewhere. In June, from the Los Angeles City Council dais, Council President Herb Wesson responded to VICA President Stuart Waldman’s recent comments on city officials’ lack of a jobs plan. “You know what, Stuart? You were right,” Wesson said. Wesson’s response was to create an Ad Hoc Committee on Comprehensive Job Creation Plan, which is aimed at spurring job growth through economic opportunities in and around the city. Los Angeles County officials followed suit shortly thereafter, committing funds to be invested for small business development.

VICA Plan for Light Rail in the Valley Moving Forward

One of VICA’s best accomplishments in 2015 was the progress made with Valley on Track (VOT) in bringing support for light rail and better public transportation infrastructure to the San Fernando Valley. VOT is a coalition of business groups, community organizations and other stakeholders who want to ensure the Valley gets its fair share in any proposed ballot measure before voters, recognizing the need for a better way to connect Valley commuters. VICA and Valley on Track are calling for three major priorities: converting the Metro Orange Line into light rail; constructing the East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor as light rail; and connecting the Valley and the Westside with a tunnel through the Santa Monica Mountains.

VICA Defeats Costly Energy Bill, Removes Petroleum Mandate from Another

VICA members, along with support from strategic partners and fellow members of the business community, were able to defeat Senate Bill 32, which would have required homes and businesses statewide to achieve a statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit that is equivalent to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030. The bill was expected to cost hundreds of millions of dollars and created no funding mechanism to pay for the required infrastructure. VICA members also removed a petroleum mandate from Senate Bill 350, which was seeking an infeasible 50-percent reduction in gasoline usage by 2030. This victory stopped a significant cost increase for local business.

VICA Chair Coby King (High Point Strategies) speaks at the Stand Up 4 Transportation news conference held in April.
2015 LEGISLATIVE SUCCESSES

STATE

Thanks to the governor’s vetoes and signatures, VICA once again made sure more than two-thirds of bills in the 2015 legislative session went in favor of the business community.

VICA took action on 32 pieces of legislation throughout the last year, with Gov. Jerry Brown supporting 16 of the 23 bills we asked him to sign into law.

Here’s a look at some of the following VICA-supported bills the governor signed into law:

AB 57 (Quirk)
Provides sensible solutions for improving wireless infrastructure by streamlining the review process and strengthening local control. This legislation will expedite the approval process while maintaining full transparency.

AB 160 (Dababneh)
Allows law enforcement to seize assets from the proceeds of illegal activity including tax evasion, copyright infringement, counterfeiting and insurance fraud. Additionally, AB 160 also allows the Board of Equalization to seek an order of restitution for sales and use tax liabilities owed to the state.

AB 288 (Holden/Olsen)
Allows a community college to create a College and Career Access Pathways Partnership with a high school, shortening the time it takes to complete a college degree.

AB 374 (Nazarian)
Prohibits a healthcare insurer from requiring “step therapy” under certain conditions, also known as first-fail, the insurer-requested medical practice of beginning drug therapy with the most cost-effective drugs before progressing to more costly medications if the initial prescriptions fail to achieve results for the patient.

Medical Marijuana Regulatory Framework (AB 266, AB 243 and SB 643)
Provides Californians with a much-needed regulatory framework for medical marijuana, addressing the concerns of communities statewide seeking to manage the expanding marijuana industry.

AB 726 (Nazarian)
Permits Metro to impose a sales tax that, when combined with Measure R (2008), shall not exceed 1 percent.

WHO MET WITH VICA

**Federal Officeholders**
- Senators
  - Barbara Boxer
  - Dianne Feinstein
  - Jeff Flake
  - Edward J. Markey
  - Ron Wyden
- Congressmembers
  - Xavier Becerra
  - Rob Bishop
  - James E. Clyburn
  - Jim Costa
  - Tony Cardenas
  - Janice Hahn
  - Steny Hoyer
  - Steve Knight
  - John Lewis
  - Ted Lieu
- Alan Lowenthal
- Doris Matsui
- Grace Napolitano
- Nancy Pelosi
- Scott Peters
- Brad Sherman
- State Officeholders
- Florida Governor
  - Rick Scott
- California Governor
  - Jerry Brown
- State Controller
  - Betty Yee
- Secretary of State
  - Alex Padilla
- State Treasurer
  - John Chiang
- Insurance Commissioner
  - Dave Jones
- Senate President Pro Tem
  - Kevin de León
- State Senators
  - Ben Allen
  - Patricia Bates
  - Jim Beall
  - Ted Gaines
  - Cathleen Galgiani
  - Isadore Hall III
  - Ed Hernandez
  - Bob Hertzberg
  - Bob Huff
  - Ricardo Lara
  - Carol Liu
  - Holly Mitchell
- Mike Morrell
- Richard Pan
- Fran Pavley
- Bob Wieckowski
- Speaker of the Assembly
  - Toni Atkins
- Assemblymembers
  - Katcho Achadjian
  - Travis Allen
  - Catharine Baker
  - Richard Bloom
  - Rob Bonta
  - Cheryl Brown
  - Ian Calderon
  - Ling-Ling Chang
  - Ed Chau
- Matt Dababneh
- Tom Daly
- Bill Dodd
- Jim Frazier
- Eduardo Garcia
- Mike Gatto
- Mike Gipson
- Jimmy Gomez
- David Hadley
- Chris Holden
- Brian Jones
- Reginald Byron
- Jones-Sawyer
- Young Kim
- Marc Levine
- Adrin Nazarian
- Jim Patterson
- Sebastian
- Ridley-Thomas
- Miguel Santiago
- Scott Wilk
SB 9 (Beall)
Redirects existing cap-and-trade revenues dedicated to transportation system operational improvements to investments in large transformative capital projects.

SB 21 (Hill)
Creates transparency and accountability for donations from nonprofits that are spent toward elected officials.

The governor vetoed the following bills opposed by VICA:

AB 465 (Hernandez)
Would have hindered an employer’s ability to use arbitration to solve complaints under the Labor Code.

AB 514 (Williams)
Would have given local governments the authority to raise administrative fines for violations of any building or safety ordinance.

AB 676 (Calderon)
Would have prohibited an employer from considering an applicant’s current employment status as a requirement for a job.

SB 376 (Lara)
Would have created contractor requirements for the University of California (UC) that would have undercut the schools’ ability to make informed and responsible decisions regarding construction and infrastructure projects.

SB 406 (Jackson)
Would have reduced the California Family Rights Act (CFRA) small-business exemption from an employer with fewer than 50 employees down to 25.

**CITY**
VICA successfully advocated at the local level on several important issues for our members.

The following are VICA-supported actions that were adopted by the L.A. City Council or the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors:

Business Tax Reform
Worked with L.A. City Council members toward reducing the gross receipts tax for biotechnology businesses.

Employer Mandates
Successfully fought to remove a union exemption and additional mandatory paid sick leave from city minimum wage negotiations.

Job Creation
L.A. City Council President Herb Wesson called for an Ad Hoc Committee on Comprehensive Job Creation Plan after input from VICA.

Economic Development
Worked with the local elected officials to spur job growth and help offset the costs of minimum wage mandates.

Small Business Investment
Worked with local elected officials to create the Countywide Economic and Community Development Program, an investment of more than $20 million for business attraction and retention.

Transportation
Garnered additional support from the San Fernando Valley Council of Governments for VICA’s Valley on Track transportation priorities.

Local Officeholders
- Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
  - Michael Antonovich
  - Sheila Kuehl
- Los Angeles County Assessor
  - Jeffrey Prang
- Los Angeles Mayor
  - Eric Garcetti
- L.A. City Attorney
  - Mike Feuer
- L.A. City Controller
  - Ron Galperin
- L.A. City Council President
  - Herb Wesson
- L.A. City
  - Councilmembers
    - Bob Blumenfield
    - Mike Bonin
    - Joe Buscaino
    - Gil Cedillo
    - Mitchell Englander
    - Felipe Fuentes
    - Paul Koretz
    - Paul Krekorian
    - Nury Martinez
    - Mitch O’Farrell
    - Curren Price
    - David Ryu
    - Herb Wesson
- City of Calabasas
  - Councilmember
    - Fred Gaines
    - David Shapiro
- City of Glendale
  - Mayor
    - Ara Najarian
- City of Glendale Councilmember
  - Laura Friedman
- City of Santa Clarita
  - Councilmember
    - Marsha McLean
- L.A. Community College Board President
  - Scott Svonkin
- L.A. Community College District Trustees
  - Mike Eng
  - Andra Hoffman
  - Sydney Kamlager
  - Nancy Pearlman
- L.A. Unified School District Board President
  - Steve Zimmer
- L.A. Unified School District Board Member
  - Scott Schmerelson
VICA IN ACTION

VICA works with the region's lawmakers and opinion leaders to improve the business climate and quality of life in the San Fernando Valley.

AVIATION
- Advocated for the creation of unmanned aircraft (drones) policy versus a slower, passive process
- Supported a comprehensive FAA re-authorization package that provided regulatory and fiscal certainty for the aviation industry

EDUCATION
- Advocated for a return of funds to boost our state's spending on career technical education programs
- Fought for increased funding for the California State University and University of California systems
- Helped prevent union influence in the creation of a statewide system of teacher evaluations and standards
- Joined in the amicus brief that helped end teacher tenure after two years of teaching
- Supported increasing appropriations for child care and pre-kindergarten development

EMPLOYMENT
- Opposed efforts by the city, county and state to raise the minimum wage
- Opposed businesses being forced to release private information regarding workers' compensation claims
- Opposed a state effort to enact a double-pay policy for holidays worked — a huge disadvantage for businesses that must be open on those days
- Prevented an expansion of the city's and the state's onerous sick leave policies
- Protected an employer's right to seek arbitration before employees file lawsuits over workplace claims
- Stopped a bill that would have required employers to provide unreasonable notice when posting work schedules

ENTERTAINMENT
- Advocated for the city of L.A.'s bid for the 2024 Olympics
- Fought for small live theaters and their pay policies for actors

ENVIRONMENT
- Fought aggressive emissions limits and energy goals for the state's already nation-leading standards
- Supported creation of the Green Assistance Program to provide help for small businesses and disadvantaged communities seeking money from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund
- Supported local water reclamation improvement efforts, flood-control management and water recycling projects that did not unevenly burden or impact the business community

HEALTHCARE
- Fought against a bill that would prohibit healthcare insurers from recovering costs for the treatment

Francine Oschin (Oschin Partners) and Representatives Xavier Becerra, Janice Hahn, Tony Cardenas and VICA President Stuart Waldman at VICA's Congressional Luncheon.
Coordinated efforts enabled Valley Industry & Commerce Association (VICA) to accomplish several goals:

**Out-of-Network Patients**
- Opposed subjecting all potential healthcare-rate increases to lengthy, unnecessary review by the Department of Managed Healthcare
- Protected nonprofit hospitals by fighting unreasonable requirements
- Pushed for more efficiency in patient care by allowing patients to skip any treatments their doctors deem unnecessary, but might otherwise be forced to follow under fail-first healthcare policies
- Supported expanding the scope of practice that nurses with national certification can perform
- Supported requiring insurance companies to deliver payments directly to physicians

**Land Use**
- Opposed a call to implement arbitrary fines for violations of certain municipal ordinances
- Opposed further expanding the regulations for developers imposed by CEQA
- Supported tax credits to help business owners offset the cost of seismic retrofits required by California state law
- Supported giving density bonuses to developers, as well as a relaxation of state standards for the number of parking spots that must be created for commercial and residential developments
- Supported a tax break for businesses that spend money on upgrades to maintain compliance with the Americans with Disability Act of 1990
- Supported the call for a review every five years of fees being imposed on new home construction

**Manufacturing**
- Defeated a bill that would have required additional cumbersome labeling for consumer products, which also would have to be included on the manufacturers’ websites
- Killed a perennial labeling mandate on drink manufacturers that would prohibit a manufacturer from marketing a sugar-sweetened drink without a warning

**Regulations**
- Called for government agencies to analyze their own rules and regulations for any redundant or unnecessary policies and procedures
- Supported a proposal to authorize the Business and Economic Development Office to create a process for reviewing business regulations
- Supported placing a limit on the amount of civil liability a business owner can incur on violations that already have been corrected

**Technology**
- Backed more aggressive action against counterfeiters by broadening the definition and the scope for what is considered piracy
- Supported the ability for a city to build a wireless telecommunications facility with the adherence to FCC regulations and local applicable laws

**Transportation**
- Gained groundbreaking support for three rail projects in the San Fernando Valley through the formation of the Valley on Track coalition
- Supported a bill that would authorize the expansion of the Orange Line’s capacity, by allowing for 82-foot-long, bi-articulated buses to be built – which is expected to increase efficiency
- Supported the investment of money from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund into transformative capital improvement projects to modernize the state’s public transportation infrastructure
In 2015, VICA pledged to:

1. Lead the effort for business tax reform in the city of Los Angeles.

2. Urge legislators to pass comprehensive workers’ compensation reform that closes loopholes that lead to frivolous litigation and provides for a fair system for both employers and employees.

3. Advocate for local incentives and the streamlining of costly and time-consuming bureaucratic barriers to film, television and commercial production in the city and county of Los Angeles.

4. Advocate for state and local incentives to encourage investment in the resurgence of manufacturing in Los Angeles and California.

5. Lead the effort to renovate key sections of the 101, 405, 5, 170 and 134 freeways to relieve bottlenecks, increase roadway safety and enable quicker, more efficient transportation between the housing and job centers in the San Fernando Valley and the Santa Clarita and San Gabriel valleys, downtown Los Angeles and the Westside.

6. Oppose any minimum wage increase proposal unless it includes regulatory reforms, reduced costly bureaucratic hurdles to doing business in the jurisdiction and a sensible implementation timeline.

7. Work to decrease our region’s reliance on imported water by advocating for local water-reclamation improvement efforts, flood control management and water recycling projects that do not unevenly burden or impact the business community.

8. Push for California Environmental Quality Act modernization that limits applicability, expands AB 900 / AB 743 exemptions, streamlines the review process, removes opportunities for litigation and prevents delays by third parties based on political, business or personal purposes.

9. Support increased financial and legislative support for workforce development and career technical education programs for students, beginning with skill set development in early education and continuing through higher education.

10. Call for increased state funding to the California State University and University of California systems in order to maintain their status as national leaders in higher education.
NEW MEMBERS IN 2015

• 8minuteenergy Renewables
• A5 Events
• All Systems Lab
• Allied Barton Security Services
• American Beverage Association
• Anthem Blue Cross
• Aroundwire.com
• The Baglietto Company
• BDI Events
• Bly Law PC
• Brent’s Deli
• California Public Strategies
• California United Bank
• Californians for Energy Independence
• Car2go
• CES College
• CIM Group
• Cloud & Fire Ministries
• CoWorx Staffing Services
• DEWright Inc.
• Dickey’s Barbeque Pit
• Discovery Cube Los Angeles
• Exceptional Minds
• Famima Corporation
• Fazio Cleaners
• Flash Frozen Photography
• Glaser Weil Fink Howard Avechen & Shapiro
• Holiday Inn Express – North Hollywood
• KB Home Southern California
• Klink Campaigns
• Line 204
• Liner LLP
• Make Good Group
• Medico Professional Linen Services
• Meet Each Need with Dignity
• Merlone Geier Management
• MGA North
• Mid Valley YMCA
• Mobil Cause, Inc.
• Moontide Media
• North Hollywood International Film Festival
• Operation Gratitude
• Partners in Care Foundation
• Phillips Graduate Institute
• PhRMA
• Pizzscotti, LLC
• Porto’s Bakery
• Recology
• Rodriguez Strategies
• Roland Communications
• Sapphire Group
• Senior Resources Inc.
• San Fernando Valley Interfaith Council
• Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton
• Sherman Oaks Chamber of Commerce
• Sklar Kirsh, LLP
• Slade Law
• Triniti Partners, Inc.
• Uber Technologies Inc.
• Union Bank
• Valley Economic Development Center
• Vitello’s Restaurant
• Walter Mosher
• Wendt Group
• Whole Foods
• Williams Homes
• Zip Car
SPONSORS + SUPPORTERS

VICA thanks the following members for their outstanding support in 2015

## PRESIDENT’S CIRCLE
- COMCAST NBC UNIVERSAL
- Los Angeles Daily News
- Las Angeles Department of Water & Power
- San Fernando Valley Business Journal
- WELLS FARGO

## PREMIER PARTNERS
- at&t
- AEROJET_ROCKETDYNE
- Albertsons VONS
- CHASE
- Pacific Federal
- PROVIDENCE Health & Services
- Walmart

## PLATINUM MEMBERS
- Clear Channel Outdoor
- California State University Northridge
- Kaiser Permanente
- Microsoft
- Metro
- Southwest
- Time Warner Cable
- UCLA Foundation
- Valley Presbyterian Hospital

## GOLD MEMBERS
- California Apartment Association of Los Angeles
- California Consumer Finance Association
- California Lutheran University
- Cerrell Associates
- Clay Lacy Aviation
- Consumer Healthcare Products Association
- FilmL.A., Inc.
- Galpin Motors, Inc.
- Ralphs Grocery Company
- State Farm Insurance
- The Walt Disney Company

## SILVER MEMBERS
- AEG
- Air Asia Americas, Inc.
- American Chemistry Council
- Anheuser-Busch, Inc
- Bank of America
- Bobrick Washroom Equipment, Inc.
- Business Life Magazine
- California Resources Corporation
- Californians for Energy Independence
- Englander Knabe & Allen
- ExxonMobil
- Farmers Insurance Group
- Fox Entertainment Group
- HNTB
- Kirsch, Kohn & Bridge LLP
- KP Public Affairs
- Latham & Watkins
- Leavitt Insurance Services of Los Angeles
- Northridge Hospital Medical Center
- Pharmaceuticals Research & Manufacturers of America
- PriceWaterhouse Coopers
- Republic Services
- Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP
- Southern California Edison
- The Boeing Company
- Uber Technologies, Inc.
- Van Nuys Airport
- Van Nuys News Press
- Verizon
- Vitello’s Restaurant
- Waste Management Inc.
- West Hills Hospital & Medical Center
- Westfield Corporation, Inc.

## BRONZE MEMBERS
- Alston & Bird LLP
- Altria Client Services, Inc.
- American Beverage Association
- Armbuster Goldsmith & Delvac LLP
- Athens Services
- Bel Air Bar and Grill
- California Restaurant Association
- Caruso Affiliated
- Chevron Products Company
- City of Hope
- Free Speech Coalition
- Granada Hills Charter High School
- Habitat for Humanity of San Fernando/Santa Clarita Valleys
- Harvard-Westlake School
- Hilton Universal City
- ITT Technical Institute
- KB Home Southern California
- Lewitt, Hackman, Shapiro, Marshall & Harlan
- Liner LLP
- Los Angeles Marriott, Burbank Airport
- Los Angeles Valley College
- Lyft, Inc.
- Mayer Brown LLP
- Merlone Geier Management
- New Horizons
- Northrop Grumman
- OutFront Media
- Parsons Brinckerhoff
- Port of Los Angeles
- Sheraton Universal Hotel
- Sony Pictures Entertainment
- The Adult Skills Center
- The Tech Consultants, LLC
- The Termo Company
- Trammell Crow Company
- UCLA Governmental & Community Relations
- USI of Southern California Insurance Services, Inc
- Western Bagel Baking Corporation
- Zipcar
EVENTS

VICA events in 2015 continued to connect members with candidates, business leaders and officeholders

State Officeholders Dinner
February 21
PRESENTED BY: COMCAST NBCUNIVERSAL & WELLS FARGO

Eighteen state elected officials joined more than 300 VICA members for VICA’s State Officeholders Dinner. The Wheel of Questions determined what each officeholder was asked, and question topics ranged from the California Film & TV Tax Credit to High-Speed Rail to Sacramento gossip.

VICA thanks the following state officeholders who attended:
SECRETARY OF STATE
• Alex Padilla
STATE CONTROLLER
• Betty Yee
STATE TREASURER
• John Chiang
INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
• Dave Jones
STATE SENATORS
• Ben Allen
• Isadore Hall III
• Ed Hernandez
BOARD OF EQUALIZATION MEMBER
• Fiona Ma
ASSEMBLYMEMBERS
• Ling-Ling Chang
• Matt Dababneh
• Brian Jones
• Young Kim
• Marc Levine
• Jim Patterson
• Sebastian Ridge
• Bob Huff
• Miguel Santiago

San Fernando Valley Business Hall of Fame
June 11
PRESENTED BY: JPMORGAN CHASE & CO. AND WELLS FARGO

The San Fernando Valley Business Hall of Fame was created by VICA to recognize significant contributions to the Valley community. Inductees include individuals, businesses and other community leaders that have been responsible for the continued success and economic vitality of the San Fernando Valley.

2015 Inductees:
• Brent’s Deli
• Fazio Cleaners
• Galpin Motors
• Sensor Systems Inc.
• YMCA (East, Mid, North and West Valley)

Assemblyman Adrin Nazarian, VICA Immediate Past Chair Coby King (High Point Strategies), L.A. City Councilman Mitchell Englander, Steve Fazio (Fazio Cleaners), Beau Boeckmann (Galpin Motors), Ron Peskin (Brent’s Deli), Mark Dengler (YMCA), Si Robin (Sensor Systems Inc.) and Councilman Bob Blumenfield at VICA’s Hall of Fame Dinner.

State Treasurer John Chiang, Carol Kim (Health Net, Inc.) Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones and VICA President Stuart Waldman at the 2015 State Officeholders Dinner.
Congressional Luncheon
April 2
PRESENTED BY: COMCAST NBCUNIVERSAL AND METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

This year marked the second annual Congressional Luncheon, which featured a series of policy-related questions for members of Congress. Attendees had the opportunity to meet their representatives in the U.S. House and discuss issues important to the business community.

VICA thanks the following members of Congress who attended:
• Congressman Xavier Becerra
• Congressman Tony Cárdenas
• Congresswoman Janice Hahn
• Congressman Brad Sherman

Local Officeholders Luncheon
August 13
PRESENTED BY: PROVIDENCE HEALTH AND SERVICES AND WALMART

More than 300 guests attended the event to mingle with local officials from Los Angeles County, the city of Los Angeles and surrounding cities, and local boards of education. The officials took questions about education, transportation and business development.

City of Los Angeles
CITY ATTORNEY
• Mike Feuer
CITY CONTROLLER
• Ron Galperin
COUNCIL PRESIDENT
• Herb Wesson

City of Agoura Hills
COUNCILMEMBER
• William Koehler

City of Calabasas
COUNCILMEMBERS
• Fred Gaines
• David Shapiro

City of Glendale
MAYOR
• Ara Najarian
COUNCILMEMBER
• Laura Friedman

L.A. Community College
BOARD PRESIDENT
• Scott Svonkin
DISTRICT TRUSTEES
• Mike Eng
• Andra Hoffman
• Sydney Kamlager
• Nancy Pearlman

L.A. Unified School District
BOARD PRESIDENT
• Steve Zimmer
BOARD MEMBERS
• Scott Schmerelson

2015 VICA Chair Coby King (High Point Strategies) passed VICA’s ceremonial robe and boxing gloves to 2016 Chair Kevin Tamaki (AT&T).
Every year at the Business Forecast Conference, VICA hosts an economic forecast breakfast with experts on the national, state and local economies presenting the Valley’s business community their take on the coming business year. During his keynote speech, L.A. City Mayor Eric Garcetti discussed Los Angeles’ economic growth and diversity. He also discussed his commitment to working with the Los Angeles City Council on job creation, a call by VICA that L.A. City Council President Herb Wesson acknowledged over the summer in his creation of an Ad Hoc Jobs Committee, mentioning VICA by name in doing so. Garcetti touted the city’s success in the attraction of a growing tech industry. The mayor also reiterated his commitment to pushing for a rail system to connect the San Fernando Valley to the Westside, which has been a priority of VICA’s Valley on Track transportation coalition. The breakfast buffet was sponsored by Californians for Affordable and Reliable Energy. The luncheon was sponsored by The Walt Disney Co.

City of L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti was the keynote speaker for VICA’s Business Forecast Conference.

James Rogers (Aerojet Rocketdyne), Richard Trogman (Kaiser Permanente), Dianne Harrison (California State University, Northridge), LADWP Commissioner Jill Banks Barad, Steve Nissen (Comcast NBCUniversal), L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti, VICA Chair Coby King (High Point Strategies), Maria Clemow (Wells Fargo), Lisa Pitney (The Walt Disney Co.) and VICA Vice Chair Brad Rosenheim (Rosenheim and Associates) at VICA’s Business Forecast Conference.

A 3-Ring Housing Market
MODERATED BY LEON PINK, BANK OF AMERICA

- Ezra Gale, Building Industry Association
- Helmi Hisserich, Los Angeles Housing Development Bureau
- Stephanie Klasky-Gamer, L.A. Family Housing Corp.
- Paul Krueger, M. David Paul & Associates, a Worth Real Estate Group

The Fantastical...
Vanishing Water Act
MODERATED BY ANTHONY WILLIAMS, THE BOEING COMPANY

- Martin Adams, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
- Andrew Fahlund, California Water Foundation
- Madelyn Glickfeld, UCLA IoES Water Resources Group
- Brandon Goshi, Metropolitan Water District

Shake, Rattle and Roll
MODERATED BY BEVERLY KENWORTHY, CALIFORNIA APARTMENT ASSOCIATION OF LOS ANGELES

- Farley Howell, Federal Emergency Management Agency;
- Paul Smith, Southern California Gas Company
Calling VICA “the best business advocacy organization there is,” incoming VICA Chair Kevin Tamaki (AT&T) donned the symbolic VICA boxing gloves and robe as he prepared to champion advocacy for the San Fernando Valley business community.

Outgoing Chair Coby King (High Point Strategies) handed over the gear shortly after VICA members unanimously approved VICA’s 2016 Board of Directors and Executive Committee at the Hilton Universal City.

• VICA Past Chair David Adelman (Greenberg & Bass) was given the 10th annual President’s Award.
• VICA Board of Governors Member Pegi Matsuda (Valley Presbyterian Hospital) took home the 23rd annual Harmon Ballin Community Service Award recipient.
• Recology, was recognized with the Robert E. Gibson Corporate Award of Excellence.

Annual Meeting
December 4
PRESENTED BY: AEROJET ROCKETDYNE AND SAN FERNANDO VALLEY BUSINESS JOURNAL

VICA Chair Coby King (High Point Strategies), Marla Clemow (Wells Fargo), Jeffrey Kravetz (US Bank), Mark Vitner (Wells Fargo) and Bill Roberts (California State University, Northridge) at VICA’s Business Forecast Conference.

Sue Bendavid (Lewitt Hackman) discusses sick leave changes during a VICA University.
Leaders Forum

VICA’s Leaders Forums provide members the opportunity to hear from prominent public figures and ask questions. In its sixth year, the series featured Florida Gov. Rick Scott. Scott has served as the Governor of Florida since 2011. Also a lawyer, Scott began his law career working for the Dallas law firm Johnson & Swanson. He later founded the Columbia Hospital Corporation, which eventually grew to become the world’s largest healthcare company.

VICA University

A series of free, educational workshops and seminars for VICA members, which cover topics relevant to the Valley’s business community, utilizing the expertise of VICA members. Sue Bendavid (Lewitt Hackman), an employment law attorney, discussed recent changes in paid sick leave.

VICA After Dark

VICA After Dark is an evening reception that allows VICA members and guests the opportunity to hear local policy and legislative updates from a featured opinion leader in a casual setting. In 2015, VICA hosted three After Dark events featuring: California State Senator Bob Hertzberg, Los Angeles Fire Department Deputy Chief Daryl Arbuthnott and Deputy Chief Bob Green and Los Angeles City Councilman Mike Bonin.

Newsmaker Connections

VICA’s Newsmaker Connections offer members an opportunity to address elected officials and public administrators. Attendees may ask questions about local public policy and topics most important to the business community and receive immediate responses. In 2015, Newsmaker Connections featured California Public Utilities Commission President Michael Picker, and a pair of debates for the Los Angeles City Council 4th District election.
MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS: BEST OF 2015

VICA is frequently sought out to provide the business community’s perspective on current issues.

Los Angeles Times
L.A.’s Choice of UC Berkeley Institute to Study Wage Plan is Criticized

- January 8 — In its analysis for Mayor Eric Garcetti, the UC Berkeley team concluded that the mayor’s wage proposal would deliver “significant gains in income” for L.A.’s low-wage workers and their families. The institute also concluded that most businesses would be able to absorb the increased costs and predicted L.A. would see a “small one-time increase” in prices at restaurants. Stuart Waldman, who heads the Valley Industry and Commerce Association, said that report was not “worth the paper it was printed on.”

San Fernando Valley Business Journal
The True Meaning of Business Friendly

- March 9 — Every February, the Valley Industry and Commerce Association holds its State Officeholders Dinner, where we invite elected officials to meet with our members in a fun and intimate setting. During the dinner program, at least one of our guests is always asked this question: Are you pro-business? A pro-business politician will make real efforts to cut down on frivolous litigation. This can be done in a number of ways. Requiring the losing party who brought a bad faith lawsuit against another party to pay for all attorney’s fees – commonly known as a “loser pays” rule – is a sure deterrent against needless litigation.

Momentum Builds to Raise Minimum Wage in L.A. County

- April 1 — A movement in the city and county of Los Angeles to raise the minimum wage is gaining momentum but also getting pushback from those who say it could lead to job cuts. “When you are increasing the minimum wage, there are businesses that just aren’t going to survive. That’s a fact,” said Stuart Waldman with Valley Industry and Commerce Association. The issue started with fast-food restaurants. Restaurant owners say if the proposal passes, they expect job cutbacks.

Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles Minimum Wage Plan Wins Council Panel’s Backing: $15 by 2020

- May 14 — Business owners and other critics told the committee that wage hikes would have catastrophic effects on local employers if the plan is not seriously reworked. Stuart Waldman, president of the Valley Industry and Commerce Association, argued that a $15 requirement would cost jobs whether it was phased in over five, six or seven years. “It’s great that there are employees that are going to be making more,” Waldman said. “But there are a lot of employees that are going to be making nothing.”

Variety
Hollywood Braces for Impact of Higher Minimum Wage

- May 26 — The recent vote by the Los Angeles City Council to boost the city’s minimum wage to $15 per hour by 2020 may not seem like it would have much of an impact on the entertainment industry, with its reliance on handsomely paid creative professionals and union presence. However, more than a few local business leaders let their views be known. “Costs are going to go up,” says Stuart Waldman, president of the San Fernando Valley-based Valley Industry and Commerce Association. “It just makes L.A. a little less film friendly, a little more difficult. If someone can get catering for cheaper in Louisiana, do they make that decision to shoot there?”
Valley Hall of Fame a Family Affair

There’s a family vibe to this year’s class of inductees in the San Fernando Valley Business Hall of Fame, an honor the Valley Industry and Commerce Association began eight years ago. Four of them are family-owned businesses or were started by a family, and the fifth has been a family gathering place for 70 years.

City Council President Says L.A. Lacks a Strategy for Creating Jobs

Los Angeles City Council President Herb Wesson said Wednesday that the critics were right: City Hall lacks a comprehensive strategy for attracting new jobs. The issue of a jobs plan was raised two months ago by Stuart Waldman, president of the Valley Industry and Commerce Association, a San Fernando Valley business group. As the council debated its plan for hiking the city’s minimum wage, Waldman told lawmakers that the city lacks an overarching plan for attracting and retaining high-paying jobs.

With Labor Deal, Los Angeles’ Pension Costs Back in the Spotlight

For three years, Los Angeles’ political leaders have battled city unions over pension costs, with labor groups fighting City Hall’s efforts to slash retirement benefits for new employees. Setting the stage for a renewed discussion about city pension costs, some City Hall observers are already questioning whether the labor deal is tough enough. “This city’s pension obligation is unsustainable and will bankrupt the city,” said Stuart Waldman, president of the Valley Industry and Commerce Association. “We either need pension reform or to eliminate some employees.”

Los Angeles Officials Want to Know More Before They Cut Taxes for Small Businesses

Coby King, Chairman of the Valley Industry and Commerce Association (VICA) was less patient. His group has fought to eliminate the gross receipts tax for years, most recently with a campaign called “Ax the Tax.” He says making more businesses exempt from the tax is a good first step that should be taken sooner rather than later. “It’s been studied enough,” King told KPCC. “The benefits of eliminating the tax are clear, the harm of keeping it is similarly clear, so we’d like to see things move forward.”

L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti Defends Job Strategy at San Fernando Valley Event

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti on Friday defended his economic record before a San Fernando Valley business group that’s been sharply critical of City Hall’s approach to job growth. Speaking at the Valley Industry and Commerce Association’s Business Forecast Conference in Universal City, Garcetti outlined his administration’s plan to cut government red tape and spur employment. Business growth is a top priority for VICA President Stuart Waldman, who stood on the council floor several months ago and declared that Los Angeles lacks a jobs plan.

No Decision on Legalizing Street Vending In L.A.

Street vendors will have to wait a bit longer to see if Los Angeles officials will legalize their trade. Some groups discussed finer points of the policy, such as the idea of setting a cap on the number of vending permits, similar to New York’s policy of allowing a maximum of 3,000 vendors. Another suggestion was to restrict vendors from operating near brick-and-mortar storefronts selling the same goods.

Minimum Wage Debate Reignites Across the U.S.

Today, New York became the first state in the nation to adopt a sweeping increase in the minimum wage for public employees. Gov. Andrew Cuomo signed the order raising the minimum wage for government workers from $8.75 an hour to $15 starting in 2018. But some business owners say low-wage fast food jobs are not meant to be lifelong employment, and a 67 percent increase in the minimum wage will mean job cuts.

“A lot of businesses are scared,” Stuart Waldman, President of VICA, told Scott Pelley during a CBS News national broadcast. “A $1-an-hour increase will end up costing each employer about $2,500 per employee each year, so that’s pretty significant.”
**2015 LEADERSHIP**

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Ross Hopkins & Associates

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Kirsch, Kohn & Bridge LLP

CCLAAYY LLACCYY
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Retired

GGREGG LLIIPP**
Gregory N. Lippe Accountancy Corp.

PPEGGII MMTTAASSUUUDDAA
Valley Presbyterian Hospital

WWAALLLTTERRR MMSOSHHEERR**
Retired

SSAAANNNFOORRDD PPAARRIISS**
Paris Industrial Parks

KKENNNEENN PPHHIIILLLLLISS
The Valley Economic Alliance

DDAAAYYM MoOND R RIIICCEE**
ExxonMobil

PPPETERER SSSALLUUOTTOFF
Anderson, Satuloff, Machado & Mendelsohn

SSTTUURRAATT SSOOLLOOMMNN**
Transcon Property Services, Inc.

RRODD SSSPPAACCKKMMAANN
Chevron Products Company

**Board of Directors**

DDAAVVIDD AAADEELLLLMMANNN**
Greenberg & Bass

CCHRRIITTIINNEENN AAAHHHHASSSSII
The Dolphin Group

JJJAAAVVIIEERR AANNGGULLOO
Walmart

MMMARRRIIITTAAMM BBEEDDDRRRSSIISSAAANN
OutFront Media

RRRIICHHIADD BBEEENNNBBOOWW
Time Warner Cable

PPAAAAMM BBEERGG
MP Printing & Mailing

LLLORRII BBRROOGGIIINN-FFAALLLLYY**
Pacific Federal Insurance Corp.

SSAMMAANNNAALL CCAAMMLLLDDWWEELLL
State Farm Insurance

JJUUAANNN CCAAMMAAMMMCCHH
Fox Entertainment Group

MMAARRIISSSSAA CCAASSTTRRRAAASSSS-S-SLLLAAVVVAAATTII
Southern California Edison

SSTEVEE CCAATTAALLLAAANNNOO
Kindel Gagan

MMAARRLLAAA CCEELLMMOOWW
Wells Fargo

JJJJUULLAAII CCOOOKSSEEY
Verizon

BRRRAADD CCOOX
Trammell Crow Co.

EERRIIKKAANN EEDDEERRRJJJIIIISSAAANNNNS
L.A. Valley College

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HNTB

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Gaines & Stacey

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Caruso Affiliated

DDAAVIDD GERRSSHWWIIIN
David Gershwin Consulting

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Armbruster, Goldsmith & Delvac

MMAARRIIICCCEELLA GGOOMMEEEEZZ**
Paramount Pictures Corporation

LLLARRRY YYGGRRAAAYY
Spindler Engineering

LLIISSAAA GGRRIITTTZNNREE**
Cerrell Associates

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Valley Economic Development Center

LIIISSAA HAAAMMM
Farmers Insurance Group

MMAARKK HAAARDDDYYMMENNTT
Bob Hope Airport

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CSU Northridge

JJJJEFFFRREEYY HHHEEEEISSSIIIIIIIII
US Bank

BRRRAADDDEEE LLLEEEERRRTT
Sutton Law Firm

RROBUYNN HHIIINNNSEE
Microsoft

MMAARRIIIIAA HHOYYEE
Latham & Watkins

CARRROOLLLLII LLIIINGGGWOOORRTHH
Albertsons, Vons, Pavilions

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CBRE Group, Inc.

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Recology

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Alpert, Barr & Grant

BEEVERRRYY KKEENNWWOORRRTHH**
California Apartment Association of L.A.

CCARROOLLLL KKKIIIM
Health Net, Inc.

COCOBBYY KKKIIINNNGG**
High Point Strategies, LLC

CRAAAGG LLALLLYY
Los Angeles Police Protective League
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<td>STUART WALDMAN</td>
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<td>JESSICA YASUKOCHI</td>
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<td>HELENE CHEMEL</td>
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## 2015 Financial Summary

### Revenue

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<th>Source</th>
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<td>After Dark</td>
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<td>Annual Meeting</td>
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<td>Unallocated Investment</td>
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<td>Voluntary Donations</td>
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<td><strong>Total Membership Dues</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total Other Revenue</strong></td>
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### Membership Dues

- Unallocated Investment: -4,725.00
- Voluntary Donations: 81,950.00
- Membership Dues - Other: 194,687.02
- **Total Membership Dues**: 271,912.02

### Operational Expenses

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<td>4,120.99</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operational Expenses</strong></td>
<td>829,026.82</td>
<td>780,600.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Other Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>JAN-DEC '15</th>
<th>'15 Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Board</td>
<td>1,506.95</td>
<td>3,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee</td>
<td>4,246.83</td>
<td>4,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Handbook</td>
<td>9,901.15</td>
<td>8,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VICA PAC Fees</td>
<td>2,000.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Other Expenses</strong></td>
<td>26,704.93</td>
<td>15,800.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Net Income**: -53,637.52