"You can't just say overnight 'We're not going to have oil anymore.' You need an intelligent plan, and that takes time."

- Governor Jerry Brown at cap and trade extension signing ceremony

**Undemocratic Bill Will Increase Property Fees Without Voter Approval**

VICA opposes Senate Bill 231 (Hertzberg), which would redefine "sewer" for the purpose of Proposition 218 to include stormwater services, resulting in stormwater service-related fees being exempt from voter approval requirements. SB 231 would allow local governments to enact higher property fees and taxes for stormwater-related projects without seeking voter approval. This bill is an undemocratic attempt to bypass the will of the voters and undermines the intent of Proposition 218. SB 231 would significantly impact property owners with new charges potentially costing them thousands of dollars each year. The cost is considerable and should not be passed on to property owners who already pay significant fees and taxes. VICA recognizes the importance of stormwater capture and drought preparedness, but this bill goes too far by infringing on Californians' rights under Proposition 218.

Click [here](#) to voice your opposition.

**Save The Date for VICA's 2017 Business Forecast Conference**

**2017 Business Forecast Conference**

**MAPPING THE FUTURE**

**Friday, October 20**

Hilton Universal Hotel
555 Universal Dr, Universal City

Sponsorship, Advertising & Exhibit booth opportunities are available!
VICA Board Supports California Transparency Portal

Yesterday, VICA’s Board voted to support a proposal to create a website portal so that Californians can easily access information about state expenditures. Ten years ago, California adopted a single financial management system for accounting, budgeting, cash management and procurement operations across all agencies. Assembly Bill 6 (Obernolte) would build off that integrated system and require all state expenditures to be posted on a website, where they could be easily searched and presented using graphics and updated weekly. The authors have the state of Ohio’s "Interactive Budget" as an example. The Ohio website highlights the biggest state suppliers, recipients of subsidies, where money is budgeted and spent by line item, and from where revenue is received. Many cities and school districts provide this level of detail on public expenditures. The relatively low cost of such a system would be justified by the increased transparency it would provide, and VICA supports this proposal.

Join VICA's 2018 Board of Directors

VICA’s 2018 Board of Directors nomination and selection process is under way, and we want your suggestions! Board members must be able to attend regular board meetings and be prepared to vote on a wide variety of public policy issues. Board members must also attend regular committee meetings and VICA events. Additional responsibilities may include calling or writing lawmakers, attending press conferences, testifying, authoring editorials, interacting with top opinion leaders and more. For more information on the 2018 Board of Directors guidelines, click here.

If you or someone you know is interested in participating on the board in 2018, please click on the nomination form below and submit to Jessica@vica.com. If you don't want to serve on the board, but are interested in serving as a committee chair, please let us know that on the nomination form.

Send VICA Your Nominations for the 2017 Harmon Ballin Award
**Hot Issues**

**Aviation**
NASA has announced it will begin taking bids in August for construction of a demo model of a plane able to cut the six-hour flight time from New York to Los Angeles in half.

**Education**
In California, only 45 percent of last year's high school graduates were eligible for public universities.

**Environment**
Gov. Jerry Brown signed legislation on Tuesday to extend California’s cap-and-trade program, solidifying the state’s battle against global warming. The legislation, Assembly Bill 398, will keep cap-and-trade operating until 2030 rather than letting it expire in 2020.

**Healthcare**
Unable to agree on a path forward to repealing the Affordable Care Act, Senate Republicans are coalescing around another option: a dramatically scaled-down bill that would leave most of the 2010 law in place.

**Housing**
In many corners of Southern California, home prices have hit record highs, with no sign of lowering. In Los Angeles county, the median price of housing jumped 7.4 percent from a year earlier. Home prices have now been rising for over five years, due to a growing economy, rock-bottom interest rates and a shortage of homes available on the market.

VICA’s Harmon Ballin Community Service Award annually honors an active VICA member who has made an outstanding contribution to our community through their long-term community service activities. A nominee is someone who:

1. has been an active VICA member, and is still a Board member or is otherwise actively engaged
2. has significant and long-term involvement in philanthropic and community/public service organizations or a significant record in that area
3. is a role model as a community leader.

*Please submit your nomination to [Jessica@vica.com](mailto:Jessica@vica.com)* by Friday, August 25.

Click [here](#) for the Harmon Ballin Nomination Form.

**VICA Seeking Administrative Assistant**

Immediate opportunity for an Administrative Assistant for a small, but busy office in Van Nuys. The Administrative Assistant is the face of VICA for most visitors and many VICA members. While duties range from managing the front desk activities to compiling event registration, the first priority of the Assistant is always the person who calls in or walks through the door.

If you or someone you know is a qualified candidate, click below to learn more about the requirements for the position and information on how to apply.

Click [here](#) for more information.

**Join VICA for our 2017 Local Officeholders Luncheon!**

**Thursday, August 17, 2017**

11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Hilton Universal Hotel
555 Universal Hollywood Drive Universal City

Local officeholders representing L.A. County, the City of Los Angeles, other Valley cities, LAUSD and L.A. Community College District join VICA and its members to discuss issues facing businesses.
$300 / Person

Confirmed Speakers as of 07/27/17

Jim McDonnell
L.A. COUNTY
Sheriff

Jeffrey Prang
L.A. COUNTY
Assessor

Kathryn Barger
L.A. COUNTY
Supervisor

Mike Feuer
L.A. CITY
Attorney

Ron Galperin
L.A. CITY
Controller

Herb Wesson
L.A. CITY
Council President

Bob Blumenfield
L.A. CITY
Councilmember

Joe Buscaino
L.A. CITY
Councilmember

Mitchell Englander
L.A. CITY
Councilmember

Jose Huizar
L.A. CITY
Councilmember

Paul Krekorian
L.A. CITY
Councilmember

Nury Martinez
L.A. CITY
Councilwoman

Mitch O'Farrell
L.A. CITY
Councilmember

David Ryu
L.A. CITY
Councilmember

William Koehler
CITY OF AGOURA HILLS
Mayor Pro-Tem

Mary Sue Maurer
CITY OF CALABASAS
Mayor

Fred Gaines
CITY OF CALABASAS
Mayor pro Tem

David Shapiro
CITY OF CALABASAS
Councilmember
Click here for the registration form.
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.