

MAYOR ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA
City of Los Angeles

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**MAYOR VILLARAIGOSA, COUNCIL PRESIDENT GARCETTI, COUNCILMEMBER JAN PERRY
MOVE FORWARD IN CREATING THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY AND SELECTING A
RATEPAYER ADVOCATE**

The Citizens Committee Will Begin the Process of Selecting the Executive Director of the Office of Public Accountability

LOS ANGELES – As part of the transparency and accountability efforts at the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Council President Eric Garcetti, and Councilmember Jan Perry today selected their appointments to the Citizens Committee for the Appointment of the Executive Director of the Office of Public Accountability (OPA). The OPA was created to ensure the actions of the DWP align with the interests of the rate-payers.

"I would like to be clear, although the LADWP's ability to continue to provide water and power while meeting state and federal mandates requires a serious discussion on rate adjustments, any action to increase rates is premature until the Office of Public Accountability has been established and a Ratepayer Advocate has had an opportunity to fully analyze the proposal," Mayor Villaraigosa said.

Mayor Villaraigosa appointed Jeff Jacobberger and John Murray. Jeffrey M. Jacobberger is a planning associate with Civic Enterprise Associates, and John Murray is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Southern California Minority Business Development Council, the largest nonprofit minority business advocacy organization in the region.

"I'm pleased to appoint Sandy and Rusty to help select the Executive Director of the Office the Public Advocate," said Council President Eric Garcetti. "I'm proud that we've empowered DWP customers to choose for themselves who will hold the department accountable. DWP's top priority must be its customers, the people and businesses of Los Angeles. I look forward to their recommendations. No action must be taken on DWP rates until the ratepayer advocate's office is in place and has conducted a thorough analysis."

Council President Garcetti appointed Sandra Itkoff and Randy Millar. Councilmember Jan Perry appointed Elaine Gaspard.

Earlier this year, voters passed Measure I, a charter amendment to establish an Office of Public Accountability and a ratepayer advocate. The amendment calls for a citizens committee to appoint the Executive Director for the Office of Public Accountability.

"I am proud to appoint Elaine Gaspard to the citizen's commission," said Council President Pro Tempore Jan Perry, Chair of the City Council's Energy and the Environment Committee. "She brings a wealth of expertise and years of experience working with diverse Los Angeles communities in her role with both the LAEDC and East West Bank. Elaine has a fine analytical mind that is well suited to the task of interviewing and finding the right person to represent the interests of the DWP ratepayer."

With these appointments finalized, the Citizens Committee is ready to start searching for an Executive Director of the Office of Public Accountability. The OPA will analyze DWP's rate proposals and elicit feedback from the community.

The Citizens Committee will be granted priority and provided any resources necessary to fulfill its role. The City's Chief Administrative Office, the Chief Legislative Analyst, and the Personnel Department will provide the Citizens Committee with guidance and support in selecting an Executive Director.

BIOGRAPHIES:

John Murray

John W. Murray, Jr. is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Southern California Minority Business Development Council, Inc. Established in 1974, the Council is the largest nonprofit minority business advocacy organization in the region, serving more than 1,500 African American, Hispanic American, Asian American, and Native American owned business enterprises and over 200 corporate members throughout 13 counties.

Prior to assuming the leadership of the council in 2002, he was a senior vice president of U.S. Public Technologies, Inc., the market leader in highway and traffic safety solutions, from 1996 to 2001. Following the company's acquisition by Affiliated Computer Services in 2001, he continued to serve the organization by leading the Traffic Safety Systems marketing programs in the Western United States.

Before joining USPT, Murray was vice president of Jenkins Gales & Martinez (JGM), a minority-owned construction management/program management professional services firm, from 1994 to 1996. Under his leadership, JGM was awarded a contract to reconstruct California State University Northridge following the 1994 earthquake.

In the public sector, he has served in various posts, including legislative deputy for State Senator Nate Holden, chief of staff to Los Angeles City Councilman Robert Farrell, and Commissioner on the Board of Public Works. was a strong advocate on behalf of contract opportunities for minority- and women-owned businesses on public sector capital projects and, for the recruitment, retention and promotion of minority employees in the Department of Public Works.

Murray attended Pepperdine University and California State University Dominguez Hills. He is a graduate of the University of Southern California's Ross Minority Program in Real Estate Finance and Development.

Jeffrey Jacobberger

Jeffrey M. Jacobberger is a planning associate with Civic Enterprise Associates, working with cities and community-based organizations to develop programs that facilitate adaptive reuse in traditional pedestrian-oriented commercial districts.

Prior to joining Civic Enterprise Associates, he was a Senior Associate at Howrey Simon Arnold & White LLP. He represented policyholders in complex insurance litigation in California and federal courts and was responsible for day-to-day management of litigation.

He is a board member of the Mid City West Community Council, the City of Los Angeles Bicycle Advisory Committee, and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Agency Westside/Central Service Council.

He received his J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley (Boalt Hall) and his A.B. in Government and History from Georgetown University.

Sandy Itkoff

Ms. Itkoff is presently Senior Vice President of Finance and Business Development at Angeleno Group. Ms. Itkoff provides Angeleno Group's portfolio companies with financial, management, strategic, and tactical guidance and resources.

She presently sits on the Energy & Environment and the Legislative Affairs committees of the Los Angeles Business Council. Prior to joining Angeleno Group, Ms. Itkoff raised over \$30 million in private, public and institutional funds for her media/political advocacy company and has received numerous international awards including the prestigious DuPont-Columbia University Journalism Award Prior to this, Ms. Itkoff led due diligence at a seed level venture capital fund with funds from two European banks. She began her career in corporate finance at Bank of America.

Ms. Itkoff holds an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business in Finance and International Business, and a B.A. in Economics from U.C.L.A.

Rusty Millar

Rusty Millar is an active member of the Silver Lake community. He has been a member of the Silver Lake Improvement Association that focuses on neighborhood improvement projects such as cleaning up graffiti, combating gangs and getting neighbors involved with their community by working with our local public safety officers. He also has organized several neighborhood cleanups with as many as 300 volunteers.

He has been part of the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council since its inception and has been elected to Co-Chair on three occasions. Through this role, Rusty actively works with council staff, city agencies, and community organizations on neighborhood issues such as homeless solutions, traffic, and development.

In December 2003, he led a group of neighborhood council representatives in working with the Los Angeles Dept of Water and Power to develop a working document (MOU) between Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils and the LADWP.

Elaine Gaspard

Elaine Gaspard is a native of Los Angeles with experience working with community based organizations and Fortune 100 companies in management positions. She served the business community in the City of Los Angeles as a lender, trainer and consultant. She developed several programs to support job creation and small business lending in underserved communities, including formal recognition for the Historic Furniture District in South Los Angeles.

Elaine has successfully implemented economic development programs in the African American, Latino and Asian communities during her years with Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) and Valley Economic Development Center (VEDC). She used her expertise to develop comprehensive home ownership programs with the City of Los Angeles and County of Los Angeles. She currently supports home ownership in underserved communities as a board member with Operation HOPE and supports financial programs as a board member with Urban Financial Services Coalition.

East West Bank currently supports initiatives designed to promote business expansion, financial literacy, and home ownership in our service area.

Elaine earned an MBA from the Wharton School of Business in Finance and a B.S. from Stanford University.

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