

DECEMBER 5, 2008

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EVENTS CALENDAR

DECEMBER 9th

CCA HOLIDAY PARTY
Point Moorea
The Wilshire Grand Hotel & Center

JANUARY 15th

General Membership Meeting

UPCOMING COMMITTEES

Open to Executive Level members only

JANUARY 8th

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



CCA Housing, Land Use & Development Committee Chair, Cindy Starrett, Latham & Watkins; Councilmember Greig Smith, 12th District, Los Angeles City Council; CCA First Executive Vice Chair, Phil Recht, Mayer Brown.

CCA Executive Committee Welcomes Councilmember Greig Smith

This week, CCA welcomed the **Honorable Greig Smith**, Los Angeles Councilmember for the 12th District, to our Executive Committee meeting at **J Restaurant & Lounge**.

Councilmember Smith has represented the Northwest San Fernando Valley since 2003, and has been supportive of the business community on many issues. As Chair of the Jobs, Business Growth & Tax Reform Committee, he led the effort to create the L.A. Legislative Economic Action Plan, which is comprised of 13 motions that will make the City more business-friendly. Introduced last month, these motions include goals to streamline the development process, simplify tax codes, and reduce the business tax. Given these tough economic times, Councilmember Smith emphasized the importance of the City doing everything within its power to provide relief for the local business community and attract new businesses and jobs to the City.

The Committee voted for CCA to become a "Friend" of Fixing Angelenos Stuck in Traffic (FAST), a nonprofit organization dedicated to designing and supporting the implementation of short-term strategies to eliminate peak traffic congestion. The initiative, co-sponsored by CCA Executive Member **Jim Thomas**, Chairman, President & CEO of **Thomas Properties Group**, will work to implement 13 solutions for improved mobility identified by a recent RAND study. The Committee also voted to support underground construction of the Regional Connector, a two-mile transit link that will connect light rail systems through Downtown at a cost of \$910 million. CCA will also be lobbying Metro to move this project forward more quickly in order to take advantage of lower construction and labor costs due to the current economic climate.

CCA thanks Councilmember Smith for joining us and J Restaurant & Lounge Owner **Sergio Dovarro** and for hosting the Committee.

L.A. LIVE Opens in Downtown

STAFF BRIEFS

- This week, the website of Fixing Angelenos Stuck in Traffic (FAST) was launched. The website outlines 13 RAND solutions that can be implemented quickly to reduce traffic congestion in Los Angeles County. To join FAST Friends and become a voice in these efforts, go to <http://www.fastla.org/>.

- CCA President & CEO Carol Schatz spoke at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Roosevelt, a 222-unit residential project developed and designed by CCA members Milbank Real Estate and Killefer Flammang Architects. CCA supported this adaptive re-use project, which transformed the obsolete landmark building into an upscale condominium complex, while preserving its distinguished architectural heritage.

- CCA testified before the Central Area Planning Commission in support of Conditional Use Permits for two projects proposed by The Moianin Group. The permits would allow on-site consumption of alcoholic beverages, live entertainment, and public dancing. The establishments will provide Downtown residents with new social dining options. Staff Contact: Tracey Chavira.

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CCA's President and CEO **Carol Schatz** joined **Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa**, Executive Member **AEG** President **Tim Leiweke**, **State Controller John Chiang**, **State Senator Gil Cedillo**, **County Supervisor Gloria Molina**, **County Assessor Rick Auerbach**, **Councilmember Jan Perry**, **Councilmember Greig Smith**, **Councilmember Wendy Greuel**, **Councilmember Tony Cardenas**, and **Councilmember Tom LaBonge** in a ceremony that marked L.A. Live's grand opening. L.A. Live, AEG's expansion of the Staples Center complex, is being compared to the Times Square of New York. L.A. Live offers a rich mix of restaurants, including ESPN Zone, Fleming's Steakhouse & Wine Bar, Lawry's Carvery, New Zealand Natural Ice Cream, Rock'N Fish, Starbucks, and The Farm of Beverly Hills. L.A. Live also features the GRAMMY Museum, Club Nokia, the Conga Room, and Lucky Strike Lanes & Lounge. During the holiday season it will feature a seven-minute light show each hour from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. in the courtyard. The centerpiece of the nightly display is a 54-foot-tall steel Christmas tree. Yesterday's gala, which also included a performance by Britney Spears, celebrated the completion of the second phase of the project. L.A. Live's Nokia Theater opened in October last year, and the long-awaited convention center hotel is expected in 2010. CCA has been a strong supporter of the L.A. Live project since its inception, working closely with AEG and the City to ensure the project's success.

CCA congratulates Mr. Leiweke and his team for this remarkable addition to Downtown L.A.

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