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EVENTS CALENDAR

JUNE 18

11:30 a.m.

General Membership
Meeting

JULY 15

Save the Date
ELECTED OFFICIALS
RECEPTION
J Restaurant & Lounge

UPCOMING COMMITTEES

Open to Executive Level
Members Only

JUNE 4

11:45 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Special Guest: LAPD Chief
William J. Bratton

Open to Executive and



CCA Chair Phil Recht, Mayer Brown; Art Leahy, Metro CEO;
Dario Frommer, CTC Commissioner; and Richard Katz, Metro
Board Member

CCA Transportation Panel Tackles Measure R Issues

CCA invited distinguished transportation experts **Richard Katz**, Metro Board Member, **Dario Frommer**, California Transportation Commissioner, and **Art Leahy**, the new CEO of Metro to speak on May 19 at the Sheraton Downtown Los Angeles Hotel about how to use Measure R revenue to create practical and lasting solutions to Los Angeles' transportation problems. Measure R is expected to raise up to \$40 billion over 30 years and will leverage federal and state matching funds to finance new and existing transportation projects and programs. This will lead to repaired streets and highways, extended bus and rail lines, reduced air pollution, and lower commute times.

Moderated by CCA Chair **Phil Recht** of **Mayer Brown**, guests listened as the panelists reiterated that the funds associated with Measure R have already been dedicated to specific transportation projects. Because the capital is readily available, Metro plans to proceed expeditiously with projects in order to create more jobs and take advantage of potential cost savings on construction materials during this

- CCA participated in a stakeholder meeting with City Ethics Commission staff to discuss revisions to the Municipal Lobbying Ordinance. CCA expressed strong concern over a proposal to exempt certain 501(c)(3) organizations from registration and argued that this exemption will only perpetuate the problems that the MLO is designed to eliminate. Staff Contact: Anh Nguyen.

- CCA participated in the "City Film Task Force" which brings city agencies together with film industry stakeholders to find solutions to filming problems in Los Angeles. The City Council will vote on an ordinance next week that will shift authority for street closures needed for filming from the Public Works Commission to the Bureau of Street Services, bypassing the three-day notification requirement as mandated by the Brown Act. This necessary change will streamline the permitting process and make it more efficient. Staff Contact: Tracey Chavira.

IN THE NEWS

"Downtown residents have to go other places," Schatz said. "Any time they go some place else they're faced with this reality. Not to mention those who don't

**Business
Advocacy Members Only**

MAY 27

8:30 a.m.

**Fundraiser to Support the
Officeholder Account of
Councilmember Jose Huizar**

JUNE 17

8:00 a.m.

**Joint Housing & Land Use
Development and
Transportation & Infrastructure
Committee**

**Special Guest:
Assemblymember Bob
Blumenfield**

JUNE 25

12:00 p.m.

**Arts, Retail & Hospitality
Committee**

economic crisis. Part of this process includes conducting early community outreach to address and resolve concerns that may stand in the way of moving projects forward. The agency is also exploring the use of public/private partnerships as another proven means of leveraging funding to complete vital projects.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to our panelists for joining us for this important discussion.

CCA Weighs In On Wilshire Grand Redevelopment Plan

CCA's Housing & Land Use Development Committee met this week to hear a detailed overview of the Wilshire Grand Redevelopment Project, presented by **Tom Paradise** of **Thomas Properties Group** and **David Martin** of **AC Martin Partners**. Plans for this extraordinary project include razing the existing 50-year old Wilshire Grand Hotel and replacing it with a 40-story luxury hotel and a 60-story Class A office tower. When completed, this will be the first high-rise office tower built in Downtown Los Angeles in nearly two decades. Entitlements are expected to be approved in 2010 and work for the environmental study has already begun. Located between L.A. Live and the much-anticipated Grand Avenue project, this is a tremendous opportunity to create a great urban space in the heart of the Financial District. The Committee enthusiastically supported the project.

The Committee also voted to support a plan that proposes to charge a nominal fee on all commercial businesses in the City with on-site signage. The proposed fee will be put in a dedicated trust fund to pay for a sufficient number of building and safety code inspectors to strictly enforce Los Angeles' current sign regulations.

Legislative Alert: City Council to Vote on Sign Ordinance

On Tuesday, May 26, 2009, the City Council will hold a hearing on the City's draft Sign Ordinance. The ordinance would regulate all signage in the City, including business identification signage.

The current draft would significantly reduce allowable sign area, height and size; dramatically restrict the areas eligible for Sign Districts; and ban electronic message signage, among other restrictions. Needless to say, the proposal poses a threat to your businesses' success and viability. The potential loss of jobs and sales tax revenue, as well as reduced property values and lost property tax, will be great if this ordinance passes. CCA continues to advocate for sensible changes that do not impact our ability to attract and retain business in this tough economic climate.

We need your help to ensure that the City Council adopts a workable ordinance that will not harm businesses in this troubled economy. Please consider sending a letter to the City Council and appearing to testify at the May 26 hearing. For more information, or for a copy of the most recent staff report on the matter, please contact CCA Vice President of Legislative & Legal Affairs, **Veronica Perez Becker**.

live Downtown who want to get here for a sporting event or a concert." May 21, Los Angeles Downtown News, "Rating R," by Ryan Vaillancourt on the Regional Connector.

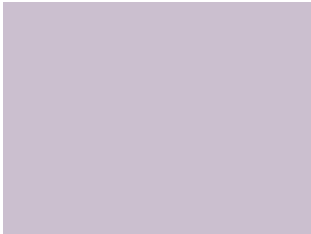
"A sound proposal must be economically feasible in any kind of market, and this can only occur with the right incentives," said CCA Vice President of Legislative Affairs Veronica Perez Becker. May 21, Los Angeles Downtown News, "More Debate for Affordable Housing Measure," by Anna Scott.

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We need your support at this hearing, which will take place on:

Tuesday, May 26, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.
City Hall, Room 350
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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