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## EVENTS CALENDAR

JUNE 11

8:00 - 9:30 a.m.

Breakfast with Assembly  
Speaker John Perez

SAVE THE DATE

JULY 13

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

CHIEFS OF STAFF  
RECEPTION

## UPCOMING COMMITTEES

Open to Executive Level  
Members Only

JULY 15

11:45 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Special Guest:

The Honorable Jose Huizar,  
Council District 14



CCA President & CEO Carol Schatz; Ray Chan, Department of Building & Safety; Steve Springer, First & Hope Downtown Supper Club. Photo by Eric Richardson/blogdowntown.

## CCA Unveils Restaurant & Hospitality Express

Those seeking to open restaurants and other hospitality venues in the city of Los Angeles can expect less red tape, thanks to a streamlined permitting and inspection process unveiled on Thursday by CCA President & CEO **Carol Schatz**; Council President Pro Tempore **Jan Perry**; First Deputy Mayor **Austin Buetner**; Executive Officer of the Department of Building & Safety **Ray Chan**; and General Manager of **First & Hope Downtown Supper Club Steve Springer**. "Restaurant & Hospitality Express" is a new inter-agency program that will reduce permitting and inspection time by 50 percent.

In December 2009, CCA gathered top decision-makers from the City's Departments of Building & Safety, Engineering, Fire, Planning, Sanitation, Transportation, and Water & Power, as well as the County Health Department, to identify unnecessary obstacles to opening a business in Los Angeles. The discussion focused on how the relevant public agencies - which can include up to 12 different entities - can facilitate permits, licensing, inspections, and help new businesses open and prosper in this challenging economy. Led by Ray Chan, the

## STAFF BRIEFS

• CCA's Ad Hoc Development Reform Committee met this week with Alan Bell of the Department of City Planning to discuss a number of proposed amendments to the Zoning Code that will streamline and simplify the procedures used to process discretionary land use applications. The group will be meeting again in two weeks to further analyze how Restaurant & Hospitality Express, a newly-unveiled streamlined permitting and inspection process for restaurant and hospitality venues, can be expanded to benefit development and expansion of businesses in other economic sectors. Staff Contact: Senior Director of Legislative & Legal Affairs, Anh Nguyen.

## IN THE NEWS

"Getting a permit to open a restaurant is the most complicated approval process for small businesses in the city," said Carol Schatz, chief executive of the Central City Association, which represents downtown business interests. "By cutting in half the time to get permits, this program will spur the creation of construction jobs and operational jobs once the

Open to Executive and  
Business Advocacy  
Members Only

JUNE 16

8:00 a.m.

Housing, Land Use &  
Development Committee  
Meeting

Special Guest: Doug Guthrie,  
General Manager, Los Angeles  
Housing Department

JUNE 22

8:00 a.m.

Transportation &  
Infrastructure Committee  
Meeting

team of public agencies held internal meetings and presented their action plan to CCA in February. The team then launched a successful pilot program with 14 new establishments, five of which are now operating.

By making the permitting and inspection process more efficient, the City will enable more food establishments to open on time, create new jobs, boost tax revenue, and spur economic growth. Under Restaurant & Hospitality Express, each new establishment will be assigned a dedicated case manager to provide one-on-one assistance throughout the design, permitting and construction stages of development. Much of the paperwork that previously took six to eight weeks to submit and review can now be completed over-the-counter, in 24 hours or less.

CCA hopes that the City will use the successful Restaurant & Hospitality Express template and apply it across other industries to promote efficiency and collaboration in our City and County governments.

CCA would like to thank the City and County agency representatives involved in Restaurant & Hospitality Express for their hard work and dedication.



Phil Recht, Mayer Brown LLP; Austin Beutner, First Deputy Mayor;  
Cindy Starrett, Latham & Watkins; Perry Schonfeld, LBA Realty.

### First Deputy Mayor Austin Beutner Addresses CCA Executive Committee

CCA's Executive Committee welcomed **Austin Beutner**, First Deputy Mayor of the city of Los Angeles and Interim General Manager of the Los Angeles Department of Water & Power (LADWP), to this month's meeting, hosted by Executive Member **LBA Realty**. Appointed by Mayor Villaraigosa in January, Beutner is charged with redirecting the City's job creation and economic development strategy.

Beutner spoke to the Executive Committee and emphasized his commitment to making Los Angeles more business-friendly. He praised CCA's work with the Department of Building & Safety to reform the permitting process for restaurants and other hospitality venues, known as Restaurant & Hospitality Express.

**restaurants open."** June 3, 2010, *Los Angeles Business Journal*, "L.A. Seeks to Streamline Permitting" by Howard Fine, on the collaborative effort between CCA and City and County Departments to streamline the permitting process for restaurants and hospitality venues.

"Carol Schatz, Central City Association chief executive, said her members would prefer paying a modest fee rather than face new sign limits. 'We want to enforce what's already on the books instead of having the city come up with something new that would negatively affect the business climate,' Schatz said." May 31, 2010, *Los Angeles Business Journal*, "Stop Sign" by Howard Fine, on the business community's preference for enforcement of existing sign regulations over the imposition of additional regulations.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Los Angeles  
Department of  
Water & Power  
invites you to  
**Fiscal Year 2010-11  
Budget Briefing**  
on  
Monday, June 7th  
10:30 a.m.  
at  
LADWP Headquarters  
Executive Conference  
Center, Room 1514  
111 N. Hope Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Click here for [Map](#), [RSVP](#),  
and [Proposed Budget](#).

In his role as Interim General Manager of the LADWP, Beutner hopes to provide leadership and guidance to ensure transparency and open communication regarding issues that affect ratepayers, to ensure sound investments, and to recruit the next General Manager.

CCA thanks Austin Beutner for joining us, **Perry Schonfeld** and LBA Realty for hosting our Executive Committee, and **Patina** for catering the luncheon.

## **CCA State and Local Endorsements**

### **California Legislative Term Limits Reform Act of 2010: Support**

CCA's Executive Committee voted to support an initiative that will reduce the total number of years a legislator may serve in the State Senate and Assembly from 14 to 12, but will allow the elected official the flexibility to serve those 12 years all in one or the other house, or in a combination of the two. Current term limits, which were enacted in 1990 and allow for a maximum of 8 years in the Senate and 6 in the Assembly, deprive legislators of the time in one office that is necessary to gain the experience and expertise necessary to govern a state as large and complex as California. Moreover, term limits have undermined the institutional knowledge of our state legislature and crippled the state's ability to address long-range policy goals such as transportation, infrastructure and public education. Although the matter will not appear on the ballot until the November election, CCA is pleased to stand in early support of this important initiative.

### **California Corporate Loophole Repeal Initiative: Oppose**

In 2009, California enacted a set of corporate tax reforms designed to encourage investment and job creation throughout the state by allowing California businesses a variety of tax-saving incentives, such as carrying-back current losses to previous years, and sharing tax credits with affiliated companies. The proposed ballot initiative, which will also appear on the November ballot, aims to repeal those reforms, thereby preventing eligible corporations from taking advantage of the hard-won new tax laws.

### **Los Angeles County Assessor: No Endorsement in Primary Election**

Given Los Angeles County's assessed real estate value of over \$1 trillion, the office of Assessor is an incredibly important elected office, and Downtown LA is home to some of the most valuable properties in the entire County. CCA and the Downtown Center Business Improvement District interviewed four of the 13 candidates running for the office of Los Angeles County Assessor. After thoughtful consideration and thorough discussion, CCA decided not to endorse any candidate for Assessor in the June primary election.

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