

NEW APPOINTEE BIOGRAPHY AND QUALIFICATIONS

Denise Diaz, Nominee to Gateway Cities Service Council



Denise Diaz was elected to her first four-year term on the South Gate City Council on April 11, 2017. Denise was born and raised in the City of South Gate. She has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communication from California State University, Long Beach and a post-graduate certificate in International Business from Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education in Guadalajara, Mexico. She worked at the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington, D.C. for several years while she served a four-year term on the advisory board for the Secretary of External Relations for Mexicans Abroad - a branch of the Mexican government. She is a past member of the Tweedy Merchant Association, and a current member of the South Gate Women's Club and South Gate Rotary. She is also the founding member of the City's Environmental Action Team and an executive board member of the East LA Classic Theatre, a theatre arts program in elementary and high schools across Los Angeles. Ms. Diaz currently works as the Director of the non-profit Institute for the Attention of Immigrants, originating from the State of Jalisco, Mexico, where she provides a wide range of services to Mexican nationals throughout the greater Los Angeles area.

Marisela Santana, Nominee to Gateway Cities Service Council



Marisela Santana was elected to the Lynwood City Council in 2018. In that role, she has also served as a member of the Gateway Cities Council of Governments, where she is currently 2nd Vice President, a member of the Homeless Committee and the Transportation Committee, and the Vice Chair for the I-710 Ad Hoc Committee.

In 1998, Marisela began working for the Los Angeles Wave Newspaper Group - which led to her covering news, features and politics for all of the newspapers under the Wave, which heralded over 13 publications covering cities from Carson to Pico Rivera, Downey, Southgate, Huntington Park, to East Los Angeles, Culver City, Hawthorne, South L.A., Compton and Lynwood. She also served as the City of Lynwood's public information officer from 2012-2016.

San Gabriel Valley Service Council

Peter Amundson Sr., Nominee to San Gabriel Valley Service Council



Born and raised in the San Gabriel Valley, Mr. Amundson graduated from UCLA with a degree in Political Science, then earned a commercial truck driving license and private pilot's license. In 1985, he formed a refrigerated transportation and warehouse company, of which he is still President and CEO. He obtained a commercial school bus certificate to help transport children from school to sports programs, leveraged his business to help feed families of the Pacific Southwest, and is active with the Foothill Unity Food Bank in Monrovia. Mr. Amundson served 12 years on the Arcadia City Council including two terms as Mayor, and served two terms representing the city on the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments. He was instrumental in establishing the Arcadia Downtown Business Association, worked with the Foothill Gold Line Authority on station development, and participated in the establishment of the SGVCOG Capital Projects and Construction Committee as the successor agency to the Alameda Corridor East Construction Authority. Mr. Amundson is a member of the Los Angeles County Airport Commission and is a past board member of the Los Angeles/Orange County Unit of the California Trucking Association.

Dora Gabriela “Gaby” Segovia, Nominee to South Bay Cities Service Council

Gabriela Segovia or “Gaby” as she likes to be called, is originally from the state of Durango, MX. A mother of four, Gaby and her four children reside in Wilmington. She trained and graduated as a promotora and facilitator, and now works to educate, inform and empower her community. She is a member of the Best Start Wilmington group, and is part of a group of neighbors in action, “Wilmington Without Borders.” She also works with LA Walks as an Educator Promotora to advance safe walking and transit access for all residents. In addition, she works with Best Start Wilmington, a First 5 LA initiative working to develop healthier communities for young children and their families. In her spare time, she enjoys cooking, singing, and dancing.

