

Port Names New Property Head

Twenty-two year real estate veteran Philip A. Tondreault was named Port of Los Angeles director of property management Nov. 2 by Bruce E. Seaton, interim executive director.

Most recently Deputy Director of Asset Management for the City's Department of General Services, Tondreault spent 17 years at the Port of Los Angeles prior joining General Services in 1999.

"We are happy to bring Philip back to the Harbor Department," Seaton said. "He has a wealth of knowledge about real estate and Port operations, we expect him to hit the ground running."



Philip Tondreault, Port of Los Angeles, Director of Property Management

As head of the Property Management Division, Tondreault will be responsible for planning and coordinating division activities that include negotiating and administering leases, permits, acquisitions, divestitures and condemnations of commercial and industrial land and water properties. As the Port embarks on an unprecedented revitalization of its waterfront, the Property Management Division under Tondreault will include expanded functions associated with the "From Bridge to Breakwater" development.

Former Director of Property Management Sid Robinson is taking on the development of the Port's Strategic Plan, a role he has held in the past.

Tondreault holds three degrees from California State University, Long Beach: a Bachelor's degree in history, a Master's degree in history and a Master's degree in Public Administration.



City Is Full of Heroes Like You

By Eric Garcetti, Councilmember, District 13

My work in CD13 regularly overwhelms me with gratitude: for the engaged community members who work full-time but still devote time to attending or serving on their neighborhood councils, mentoring local young people, organizing neighborhood watches, or meeting with fellow activists or union members. But the people to whom I owe inexpressible thanks, and who rarely receive it in public, are the City workers who keep our great City of the Angels up and running.

Two years ago at this time, City workers had just taken something of a beating in public. The divisive secession campaign to split Los Angeles into two or three cities had just been defeated by the voters. For the better part of the year leading up to it, we were flooded with propaganda claiming that City Hall was clogged up like an artery with bureaucratic fat. The hard work of the men and women of the City's departments was denigrated on a daily basis. Through all this, City unions promoted ways to save the City money and coped with staffing shortages due to a hiring freeze that remains in place today, precipitating an average cut of 7 percent per department.

We voted to stay as one City in part because Angelenos know, at some level, that thousands of City workers perform essential services day in

and day out. Certainly, none of the work I do would be possible without you. So as an early Thanksgiving for City workers, I recently hosted a small luncheon for CD13's "Heroes," the men and women who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in their service to my constituents in the 13th Council District and the City as a whole.

Last month's luncheon was the fourth Heroes' Luncheon I have hosted for CD13's heroes. We took time out of the working day to honor street sweepers and City attorneys, deputy mayors and City clerks, building inspectors and housing administrators, printers, parking operators, and police officers, too many to list out here, but each and every one responsible for making the City of Los Angeles a better place to live.

Between telling the whole group about each individual's contribution and presenting him or her with a City certificate, I told a story about a community cleanup put on by a start-up community group in my district in late 2002, just before the secession vote. On a Sunday, a man who works in the Bureau of Street Services came to join the cleanup. He brought another colleague. He also brought along his brother and his mother. He wasn't drawing pay, let alone overtime. He

Each month, Alive! invites political leaders to speak directly to City and DWP employees and retirees. Alive! brings you these views as a public service. The opinions of those on this monthly column are independent of Alive! and the City Employees Club of Los Angeles.

Political Forum



Mr. Garcetti's Council District 13 represents the following areas:

- LAX
- Hollywood
- Silver Lake
- Glassell Park
- Atwater Village
- Echo Park
- Elysian Valley
- Historic Filipinotown

just wanted to help teach this community group how to take charge over a few blocks in their neighborhood that had for too long been blighted by some trash here, an old couch there, and overall, the perception that the neighborhood just didn't matter.

CD13's heroes are all City employees in that same mold. To them, this city matters. One of my favorite things about the annual heroes' lunch is that it brings people together from different departments who wouldn't ordinarily work together. By doing that, people get to see just how much work it takes to run a City of Angels and just how many angels there are doing it.

Toward a Wireless Future

Mayor Hahn moves to develop the City's capacity for connecting wirelessly to the Internet.

On Oct. 20, Mayor Jim Hahn announced the creation of a special panel of telecommunications experts to create a plan to extend fast and easy wireless Internet access to every Los Angeles resident.

"I want Los Angeles to remain at the leading edge of innovation and creativity," Mayor Hahn said. "We need wireless access to the Internet everywhere in the City – not just in select locations. I believe that Wi-Fi and 'next generation' technologies will help us bridge the digital divide."

Mayor Hahn's Broadband Executive Panel will be charged with examining what role broadband

technologies can play in accelerating economic development in the city and how Wi-Fi and "next generation" wireless technologies can be used to retain and attract businesses to Los Angeles. The panel will also examine what role the City of Los Angeles could play in ensuring that these technologies are available to all residents. The panel's report is expected to be completed by April.

Chairing Mayor Hahn's advisory panel will be Morley A. Winograd, executive director of the Center for Telecom Management at USC's Marshall School of Business. The panel will also include: Todd Richmond, USC Annenberg Center for Communication; Russell M. Kaurlo, USC Information Services Division; Rajit Gadh, Wireless Internet for the Mobile Enterprise Consortium; Curt Hessler, 101 Communications; and Rich Grimes, Wireless Capital Partners. In addition, representatives

from the wireless telephone and cable industries will be appointed. Representatives from several city departments will also participate on the panel, including Thera Bradshaw, Information Technology Agency; Paul Wang, Department of Water and Power; and Curtis Gibbs, Community Redevelopment Agency.

"A Los Angeles community broadband net-

working plan will enable all residents and businesses to connect with their government, their communities and their world," said Winograd.

Wi-Fi service—high-speed (broadband) wireless data communication connecting computers, some cell phones and personal digital assistants with the Internet—is currently available at several City of Los Angeles facilities, including Los

Angeles International Airport, the Los Angeles Convention Center and the Braude Constituent Service Center in Van Nuys, which just became available. Wi-Fi service is currently being developed at Pershing Square in Downtown Los Angeles and along First Street in Little Tokyo and should be available within the next several months.



The Marvin Braude Center in Van Nuys is part of a City experiment in wireless technology. The City has formed a wireless task force to study the opportunity.

Wireless in Van Nuys

Pilot program launches, offering wireless Internet service at the Marvin Braude Center.

The City is running a six-month test of wireless broadband in the Marvin Braude Center, the multi-agency facility in Van Nuys. The trial will use 802.11b mesh network technology provided by wireless Internet services provider Aiirmesh Communications.

The goal of the project is to help the City of Los Angeles to better understand Wi-Fi, how it can increase productivity and to analyze the benefits of Internet availability for the public, both inside buildings and in outside common areas.

The City of Los Angeles has said it is contemplating a larger-scale deployment to additional government campuses and other underserved areas in the City.

"As a technological leader, Los Angeles should be on the forefront of providing Wi-Fi Internet access," said Los Angeles City Council member Jack Weiss. Weiss authored the proposal for the pilot project.

The deployment at the Braude Center will provide wireless broadband access to a 142,000-square-foot building that houses offices for Transportation, Finance and Building and Safety.

The Los Angeles project follows on Aiirmesh's creation of an 8.6-square-mile mesh network to deliver wireless broadband Internet access to Cerritos.