

2 Commissioners Join Public Works

Julie B. Gutman and Ernesto Cárdenas join the Public Works governing body.

PUBLIC WORKS — Two Commissioners have joined the Board of Public Works. They are Ernesto Cárdenas, who was appointed by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa May 11 and began his tenure July 2, and Julie B. Gutman, appointed June 25. Cárdenas filled the seat vacated by Yolanda Fuentes, who left to become the Mayor's Associate Director of Neighborhood and Community Services. Gutman's appointment is subject to confirmation by the City Council.

Ernesto Cárdenas is not a newcomer to City Commissions, having served on the Planning, Transportation and Planning Commissions under former Mayors Richard Riordan and James K. Hahn. He worked on land use, conservation and zoning regulation issues while on the North Valley Area Planning Commission. He advocated for balance between community preservation and economic development while serving on the Planning Commission.

Commissioner Cárdenas is also an accom-

plished mechanical engineer whose 21-year career with AT&T (formerly SBC) brings extensive experience in project management, building infrastructure programs, contractor relations and government affairs. In his tenure as senior project manager at AT&T, Cárdenas enforced best management practices and applied his engineering and real estate expertise to handle a \$50 million annual project budget.

As a member of the Board of Public Works, Cárdenas will serve as Board liaison to the Bureau of Street Services and backup liaison to the Bureau of Contract Administration. He will also represent the Board on activities and issues concerning Council Districts 3, 7 and 12. His special assignments include the 50-50 sidewalk repair program, the design-built task force, Spanish outreach task force, and youth programs including Junior Commissioners and the department's high school internship program.

Commissioner Cárdenas is a 15-year veteran volunteer for the Pasadena Tournament of Roses. He is also active co-founder of the Andres y Maria Cárdenas Family Foundation – a nonprofit organization that provides college scholarships to deserving students from eight high schools in the east San Fernando Valley. So far, his efforts



Ernesto Cárdenas

have benefited 330 students who received \$520,000 in scholarships.

Commissioner Cárdenas earned his Master's degree in business administration from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, and his undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering from University of California, Santa Barbara.

Since 1996, Julie B. Gutman has been a senior trial attorney for the National Labor Relations Board in Los Angeles. She investigates, analyzes and recommends fair disposition of unfair labor



Julie B. Gutman

practice charges and has won 100 percent of her litigation cases, including injunctions against the mass discharge of manufacturing workers. Gutman has been selected as a model National Labor Relations Board Attorney to conduct training to attorneys nationwide and has won annual "Outstanding Performance" awards.

Prior to her work for the National Labor Relations Board, Gutman worked as the community economic development director and supervising attorney at the East Palo Alto Community Law Project, a community-based law office serving low-income, multicultural communities. While there, she was appointed to the city's Economic Development Task Force to analyze redevelopment projects and engage in master planning to leverage local, state and federal resources for housing and economic development.

In addition, Gutman has also served as an adjunct faculty member at Stanford Law School, clerked for U.S. District Court Judge Stanley Weigel, and has been awarded an American Bar Association Fellowship.

Gutman earned Bachelor's degrees in history and law and society from Brown University. She received her law degree from Stanford Law School.

The Board of Public Works Commissioners oversees the five City bureaus responsible for design, construction, renovation and operation of public projects, including graffiti removal, wastewater treatment facilities, libraries, bridges and maintenance of streets, sidewalks, sewers, streetlights and street trees.

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Newsbrief



SANITATION LOOKS INTO HYBRIDS

Public Works/Sanitation announced Aug. 28 that it is working with German Company Bosch Rexroth to explore the benefits of utilizing hydraulic hybrid technology in its collection fleet.

Sanitation currently has approximately 316 clean fuel natural gas heavy-duty Solid Resources Collection vehicles in operation and continues to add even more clean vehicles to its fleet as it replaces its retired diesel-powered collection trucks. Clean burning natural gas engines produce significantly fewer oxides of nitrogen, particulate matter and other air pollutants than traditional diesel engines. In addition, because natural gas is a domestically available resource, it reduces dependence on foreign oil while improving local air quality.

This new added technology has been identified as having high potential for successfully reducing fuel consumption and emissions, improving performance and reducing operating and maintenance costs. The proprietary Rexroth Hydrostatic Regenerative Brake system uses a hydraulic pump/motor to capture kinetic energy during vehicle braking. This energy, which would otherwise be lost in the vehicle's friction brakes, is absorbed and re-used to help the engine launch the vehicle, thereby reducing the engine's need for fuel to accomplish the same. The overall process is called regenerative braking.

The program is part of Sanitation's comprehensive plan to reduce emission from Solid Resources Collection fleet.