Los Angeles County Commission on Local Governmental Services

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To: Board of Supervisors
Mayor, City of Los Angeles
President, Los Angeles City Council
Los Angeles City Council
President, Independent Cities Association
President, L.A. Division of the League of California Cities
President, Contract Cities Association
President, South Bay COG
President, San Gabriel Valley COG
President, Westside COG
President, Gateway Cities COG

From: Tyler K. Kelley, Chair, Commission on Local Government Services
Angela J. Reddock, Vice Chair, Commission on Local Government Services

Regarding: 2008 Year-End Review

Date: January 9, 2009

Dear Honorable Leaders:

I write to you today to provide an update on the activities of the Los Angeles County Commission on Local Government Services during 2008. As you may know, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors formed the Commission on Local Government Services in 1977 to identify and recommend cost-effective and efficient alternatives for the delivery of multi-jurisdictional services within the County of Los Angeles.

The past year has been an exciting one for the Commission, highlighted by a dramatic increase in activity and new leadership. On March 4, 2008, the Commission unanimously elected Commissioner Tyler K. Kelley as the new Chairman and Angela Reddock as the Vice Chair. Chairman Kelley replaced Commissioner Richard Rosenthal, who had served in as Chairman for 15 years. Under Chairman Kelley's leadership, the Commission adopted new participation and procedural guidelines for Commissioners and has made considerable progress on several pre-existing matters and engaged on several new topics.

Significant Commission Developments

- Election of Chairman Tyler K. Kelley and Vice Chair Angela J. Reddock:
  The Commission unanimously elected Tyler K. Kelley as Chairman, replacing Richard Rosenthal, whom the Commission thanked for his 15 years of dedicated service. The Commission also elected Angela J. Reddock as Vice-Chair.

- New Commissioners:

  The Commission welcomed six new enthusiastic and highly qualified Commissioners during 2008; each of the new Commissioners have already provided significant substantive contributions.

- Commission Guidelines:

  The Commission adopted Procedural Guidelines for Commission activities (attached) as well as framework that established expectations for Commissioner participation. As a result, Commissioner attendance increased 8% over 2007 to 69%. In addition the Commission met eleven times in 2008 versus seven times in 2007.

Policy Agenda Highlights

- 911 Wireless Calls:

  The Commission has played a leadership role in facilitating the transition of 911 wireless calls from the California Highway Patrol to the local emergency response agencies. With the explosion of cellular telephones, emergency response times for these calls had lengthened to as much as thirty minutes largely due to bottlenecks in the CHP dispatch system. After working closely with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Office and the Los Angeles Police Department during their transition process, the Commission focused on the City of Long Beach as the last major city in the County to make the transition. Since our initial meeting with officials from Long Beach, and follow up contact with both elected and appointed officials, Long Beach has initiated the process of assuming direct responsibility for cellular emergency calls within its jurisdiction. As reported in both *The Los Angeles Times and the Long Beach Press Telegram*, the Commission's efforts will directly and positively impact emergency response times for the citizens of Los Angeles County. Currently, Long Beach has accepted full responsibility for 911 calls from Verizon customers, and will have completed the transition for all wireless customers by March 31, 2009.

- Taxi Cab Task Force:

  After proactively and successfully seeking a Board of Supervisors mandate, the Commission convened the Taxi Cab Task Force on April 1, 2008. At the direction of Vice Chair Angela J. Reddock, the Taxi Cab Task Force has held two meetings, with a third scheduled for March, 2009. The Commission is in the process of finalizing recommendations regarding the adoption of a County-wide taxi decal to address the growth of so-called "bandit cabs" and the creation of a uniform mechanism for conducting driver background checks. The Taxi Task Force is in the early stages of evaluating additional issues, including appropriate responses to gas price volatility.

- Real Estate Asset Management:

  The Commission has re-engaged with Los Angeles County staff regarding the County's real estate management information systems. With a significant re-organization of the relevant County administration now complete, the Commission will be making recommendations to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors in the first quarter of 2009.

The Commission is proud of its substantive and organizational achievements during 2008. We are confident that the Commission's work during 2008 will provide the foundation for an even more productive 2009, and we look forward to working with all of you throughout the year. Please do not hesitate to reach out to anyone on the Commission at (213) 974-1431.

Sincerely,

Tyler Kelley

Tyler K. Kelley
Chairman

Sincerely,

Angela J. Reddock

Angela J. Reddock
Vice Chair