



LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES LATINO CAUCUS 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The past year at the Latino Caucus has been a great one, and I couldn't be more proud of our Board of Directors, community, and partners. 2023 has been a profound year of legendary Latino leadership for the Caucus, Cal Cities, and California. The Latino Caucus welcomed a new President, Ray Marquez, from the City of Chino Hills. Ray Marquez has been a Latino Caucus Board Member since 2019 and is the pinnacle of integrity and hard work. Cal Cities welcomed President Daniel Parra from the City of Fowler. Daniel Parra has been a Latino Caucus Board Member since 2009 and is the former President of the Latino Caucus. We have also seen the epic rise of the newest Assembly Speaker, Robert Rivas, a longtime friend of the Latino Caucus and the recipient of our Legislator of the Year award in 2023. The Latino Caucus is profoundly connected to the leaders of California, and we seek to continue our mission to develop and strengthen the leadership skills of Latino elected officials.

In addition to new leadership, the Latino Caucus launched its new multiyear strategic plan. The three-year plan includes the Latino Leadership Pipeline, Governance and Visibility, and Partnerships and Resources. Part of this plan included increasing our engagement with our fellow Caucus' in meaningful ways, such as our workshop Addressing Water Challenges within BIPOC Communities, conducted with the African American Caucus. We must build new relationships, hear new points of view, and be open to partnerships that seek to expand our community and leadership.

Our advocacy efforts continue to race ahead, as did our strategic relationship development with legislators. The Latino Caucus conducted a legislative advocacy day in April, which was even better than our last. We advocated in the areas of housing affordability, homelessness, and climate change. We conducted workshops in the area of climate change and housing to supplement our advocacy efforts.

As for the year to come, we look forward to the challenging work of grappling with California's growing deficit, protecting and maintaining city funds, increasing the civic engagement of Latinos in California, and continuing to serve our communities. We are thrilled to have had multiple opportunities to engage with our members throughout the year. We learned of a growing request to connect more frequently as we met and spoke to our members. We are proud to state that when our members speak- We Listen! In 2024, we will offer additional annual membership meetings and expanded educational opportunities.

I want to thank the Latino Caucus Board of Directors, our members, and annual sponsors for their commitment and leadership in representing and advocating on behalf of Latinos throughout California.

Sincerely,


ERICA H. ARRIAGA

Executive Director

League of California Cities Latino Caucus



2023-2024

LATINO CAUCUS BOARD OF DIRECTORS



EST. 1990

MISSION

To develop and strengthen the leadership skills of Latino elected officials in order to advocate on behalf of Latinos in California.



WELCOME NEW PRESIDENT

Ray Marquez

CITY OF CHINO HILLS





LATINO CAUCUS ADVOCACY

The Latino Caucus Board of Directors meets every January to set our policy priorities for the year. Our priorities guide our educational programming and legislative advocacy efforts. This year, the Latino Caucus prioritized its partnership with the California Latino Legislative Caucus to advocate better for these and future priorities.

The Latino Caucus aided in the efforts of Assembly Member Soria and Senator Caballero to support California hospitals in the face of closures. We supported SB 70 (Limon) regarding gubernatorial appointments. We supported housing and homeownership legislation, AB 1033, AB 1508, and SB 684, which made it through the legislature and was signed by the Governor.





LATINO CAUCUS POLICY PRIORITIES

HOMELESSNESS

Secure sustainable state funding that bolsters cities' efforts to support individuals experiencing, or at risk of, homelessness regardless of immigration status. While protecting existing resources, strengthen state and local partnerships to connect individuals with the care they need through coordinated care systems that provide access to wraparound services, including mental health and substance use treatment.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Advance infrastructure, programs, and policies that address California's water challenges, including unsafe drinking water, major flood risks that threaten public safety, drought, extreme weather conditions, and agricultural communities coping with uncertain water supplies.

HOUSING

Secure long-term, sustainable funding tools for cities to jumpstart the construction of housing at all income levels and ensure cities retain the flexibility to achieve local and state housing goals.

Advocate for the equitable distribution and comprehensive technical assistance of state and federal funding to address housing affordability in California cities.

Advocate for tenant protection for renters, including unlawful rent increases and unfair evictions.



MEMBERSHIP BREAKFAST

The Latino Caucus conducted a membership breakfast at this year's City Summit in Sacramento. This successful event provided the opportunity to share the messages from legislator meetings and to hear from members about the local issues in their communities.





LATINO CAUCUS STRATEGIC PLAN

The Latino Caucus launched its fourth strategic plan in 2023, which included goals to grow Latino leaders, benefit Latino Caucus members, and serve Latino communities.

- 1 Latino Leadership Pipeline**
Strategic Goal: To address the under-representation of Latinos in elected and appointed roles in California and within the League of California Cities.
- 2 LCCLC Governance and Visibility**
Strategic Goal: To enhance the LCCLC's governance and organizational engagement and effectiveness. To raise the LCCLC's visibility as the preeminent voice for Latino Leaders in California.
- 3 Latino Caucus Partnerships and Resources**
Strategic Goal: Identify and develop partnerships that contribute to the execution of the Latino Caucus mission and benefit our membership.



PUBLIC RELATIONS AND STRATEGIC PLAN COMMITTEE

Teresa Acosta, City of Carlsbad - Chair

Rosa Escutia-Braaton, City of Modesto

Greg Gomez, City of Farmersville

Jovita Mendoza, City of Brentwood

Daniel Para, City of Fowler



Connecting with our Cal Cities Community

Established in 1990 the Latino Caucus is an active member of the Cal Cities community. Our Cal Cities Board of Directors representative was Anna Velazquez, City of Soledad. We were proud to honor one of our own, Daniel Parra, who was inaugurated as the new Cal Cities 2023-2024 Board President. The Latino Caucus has been diligently participating in Cal Cities policy setting, round tables, and other community-building programming. In 2023, the Latino Caucus was pleased to hold a joint workshop on water with the African American Caucus. The Latino Caucus conducted a meet and greet at the New Mayors and City Council Academy in Universal City, happy to usher in our newest city leaders. The Latino Caucus was pleased to participate in this year's League Leaders workshop.



2023 LATINO CAUCUS EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Winter Board Retreat

January 20-22 | San Francisco

New Mayors and Council Members Academy Latino Caucus Mixer

January 18-20 in Sacramento
February 1-3 | Universal City

Latino Caucus Legislative Action Day

Latino Caucus Member Breakfast
Cal Cities- City Leaders Summit
April 12-14 | Sacramento

Workshop: Addressing Water Challenges within BIPOC Communities

May 10 | West Basin

Midyear Board Retreat

June 23-24 | Monterey

Annual Conference & Expo: Business Meeting, Workshop, and Gala

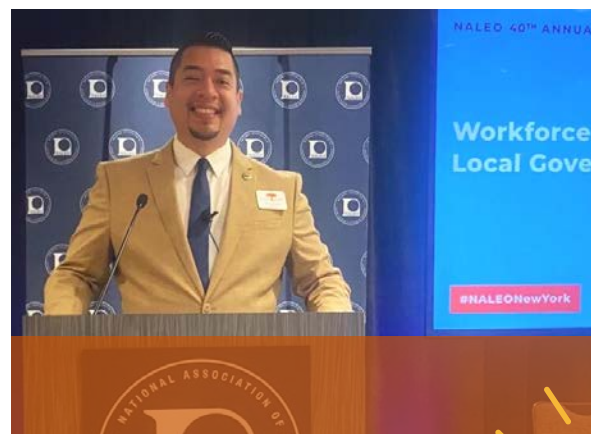
September 20-22 | Sacramento

Workshop: Be a Climate Leader! Climate Action Plans for All

October 5 | Webinar



**LA LUCHA MOVIE PREMIER
AT THE MIDYEAR BOARD RETREAT**
Monterey, CA | June



NALEO ANNUAL CONFERENCE
New York, NY | July





ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXPO LATINO CAUCUS

September 20-22

BUSINESS MEETING

Membership Meeting | Committee Reports | Swearing in of Officers

WORKSHOP

Building in Economically Challenging Times- best practices for identifying funding through public-private partnerships for civic projects.

ANNUAL AWARDS GALA

Members, partners, and sponsors gather for an evening to celebrate and honor the Latino Caucus champions of 2023.

HONOREES

ASSEMBLY SPEAKER
ROBERT RIVAS
LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR

COUNCIL MEMBER
ALICIA AGUIRRE
ELECTED OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR

LEARN 4 LIFE
BOB MORALES
SPONSOR OF THE YEAR



LATINOS IN LEADERSHIP



CA LATINO ASSEMBLY MEMBERS

Total- 24

CA LATINO SENATORS

Total- 11

CA LATINO LEADERSHIP

ASSEMBLY SPEAKER

Hon. Robert Rivas

PAST LATINO CAUCUS MEMBERS CURRENTLY IN OFFICE

Senator Anna Caballero, Assembly Member David Alvarez, & Assembly Member Esmeralda Soria

61 LATINO MEMBERS OF THE 118TH UNITED STATES CONGRESS

CA LATINO POPULATION

40%

CA LATINO CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

550 Leaders

CA LATINO CAL CITIES BOARD MEMBERS

11 Board Members



Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is responsible for the overall supervision, control, and direction of the Latino Caucus. The Board consists of a president, vice president, treasurer, secretary parliamentarian, immediate past president, and ten at-large positions. The Board of Directors includes five representatives from the North, South, and Central regions of California.



Ray Marquez
President
City of Chino Hills



Ulises Cabrera
Vice President
City of Moreno Valley



Anna Velazquez
Treasurer
City of Soledad



Yvonne Martínez Beltrán
Secretary/Parliamentarian
City of Morgan Hill



Alicia Aguirre
Immediate Past President
City of Redwood City



Teresa Acosta
City of Carlsbad



Eric Arias
City of Bakersfield



Jorgel Chavez
City of Bell Gardens



Luis Chavez
City of Fresno



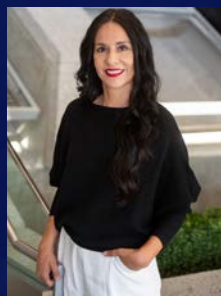
Rosa Escutia-Braaton
City of Modesto



Eddie Flores
City of South San Francisco



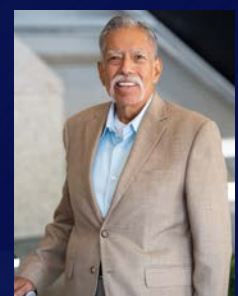
Gregorio Gomez
City of Farmersville



Jovita Mendoza
City of Brentwood



Daniel Parra
City of Fowler



Roberto Uranga
City of Long Beach

CONNECT WITH US

MEMBERSHIP | CONTRIBUTIONS | EVENT INFORMATION

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