



CHAMBER SAN MATEO COUNTY PROGRESS SEMINAR

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Hyatt Regency Sonoma Wine Country
May 2-4, 2025



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Welcome to the Progress Seminar!

This is our 56th year in presenting this seminal program to convene the region's thought leaders and decision-makers to tackle some of our community's lasting problems and explore possibilities to harness eminent opportunities to continue to make San Mateo County a great place to work, live and visit. This Progress Seminar is where business, government, labor and education are represented by a dynamic mix of nearly 300 attendees from all communities of San Mateo County.

Our planning team has worked diligently to craft an agenda and highlight topics that are top-of-mind, impactful and in need of a broader community conversation to frame a future that not only surfaces inequities and mitigates potential risks but also leverages possibilities and opportunities. As an attendee this year, you will have an opportunity to learn more about and discuss topics such as:

- the impact of national political, policy and personality changes,
- local impacts of climate change,
- public and private sector strategies of meeting communities where they are,
- preparing for changing economic conditions,
- the importance of our local hospitality and tourism industries,
- the vulnerabilities of our local healthcare system,
- evolving the state through engagement and action, and
- motivators and concerns in public life.

Our goal is to leave you and all attendees with fresh ideas, newfound partnerships, and revitalized energy that drive improved public policy, stronger alliances, and a culture of listening, understanding and collaboration.

Chamber San Mateo County, through the Progress Seminar and its other programs, is excited to continue its role in helping shape our collective future. The Chamber embraces this mantle with enthusiasm, focus and a spirit of collaboration and with an eye on meaningful results for our community.

We hope you find the 2025 Progress Seminar to be informative, thought-provoking and a supportive resource in your community leadership role. If there is anything we can do to make your experience more rewarding or enjoyable, please let us know.



Rosanne Foust

Progress Seminar Co-Chair
President & CEO, San Mateo County Economic Development Association (SAMCEDA)



Julie Lind

Progress Seminar Co-Chair
Executive Officer/Executive Secretary Treasurer,
San Mateo County Central Labor Council



Mike Callagy

Progress Seminar Co-Chair
County Executive, County of San Mateo



Dr. Jamillah Moore

Progress Seminar Co-Chair
Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, San Francisco State University



Lennies Gutierrez

Chair of the Board, Chamber San Mateo County
Director of Government Affairs, Comcast



Amy Buckmaster

President & CEO, Chamber San Mateo County

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Schedule of Events

Friday, May 2

Time	Event	Location
4:00pm – 6:00pm	Registration	Alexander Valley Foyer
6:00pm – 8:00pm	Welcome Reception and Dinner	Knights Valley Garden

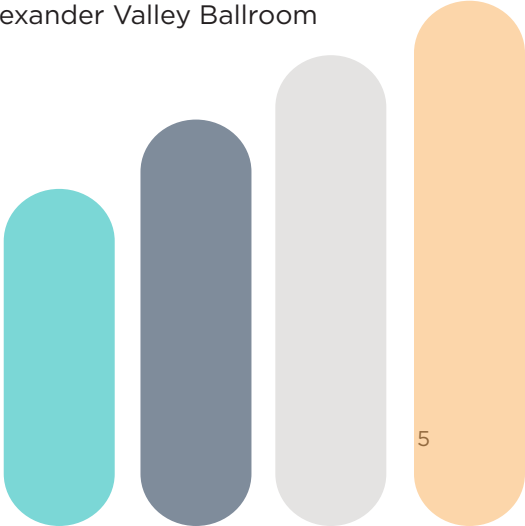
Saturday, May 3

Time	Event	Location
7:30am – 8:30am	Registration	Alexander Valley Foyer
7:45am – 9:20am	Opening General Session and Breakfast	Alexander Valley Ballroom
9:30am – 10:20am	Session 1 (Breakouts A – E)	See session descriptions on pages 6-8
10:25am – 11:15am	Session 2 (Breakouts A – E)	
11:15am – 11:25am	Mid-morning Break	Alexander Valley Foyer
11:25am – 12:15pm	Session 3 (Breakouts A – E)	See session descriptions on pages 6-8
12:20pm – 1:10pm	Session 4 (Breakouts A – E)	
1:10pm – 2:50pm	Luncheon General Session	Alexander Valley Ballroom
2:50pm – 6:00pm	Unscheduled Time – Networking	
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Reception	Sonoma Valley Courtyard
7:00pm – 9:00pm	Derby Party and Dinner	Alexander Valley Ballroom

Sunday, May 4

Time	Event	Location
8:30am – 11:00am	Closing General Session and Breakfast	Alexander Valley Ballroom

#PS25
#ProgressSeminar2025
#ChamberSMC
#sanmateocounty
#business
#government
#labor
#education
#collaboration
#SMCWeGetItDone



Session Descriptions

Opening General Session

Under New Management: The New Normal of National Politics, Policies and Personalities

#UnderNewManagement #NewEraPolitics

Location: Alexander Valley Grand Ballroom

With a new national administration in Washington, D.C., the only constant seems to be change. This distinguished panel of local government, philanthropic, labor and business leaders will provide their insights and perspectives about how the national political and policy landscapes are changing the worlds in which they operate

Keynote Panelists

- Nicole Taylor, President & CEO, Silicon Valley Community Foundation
- David Canepa, President of the Board, San Mateo County Board of Supervisors
- Julie Lind, Executive Officer/Executive Secretary Treasurer, San Mateo County Central Labor Council

Moderator

- Rosanne Foust, President & CEO, SAMCEDA

Breakout Session A

Hospitality and Tourism – An Important Driver of Economic Development in San Mateo County

#TourismDrivesSMC #SMCHospitalityMatters

Location: Sonoma Mountain

A robust tourism economy is essential to San Mateo County from hotel tax generation to consumer spending. With large, international events being hosted throughout California in the coming years, many will take place in the Bay Area, including Super Bowl LX and FIFA World Cup, which will bring hundreds-of-thousands of visitors to the region who will spend hundreds-of-millions of dollars locally, attracting these tourists and attendees will be vital to the county's economy. This panel will outline their approaches to making San Mateo County a hospitality and tourism destination that creates memorable experiences and maintains good, safe jobs for workers.

Panelists

- Maggie Lang, Chief Sales & Marketing Officer, The San Francisco Peninsula
- Allison Keany, CEO, Cow Palace
- Ruth Shikada, Vice President of Government Affairs, Bay Area Host Committee

Co-Moderators

- Dana Stoeher, CEO, San Mateo County Event Center
- John Hutar, CEO, The San Francisco Peninsula

Breakout Session B

Mother Nature is not Happy: A Discussion on Resiliency, Flooding, Fires, and Sea Level Rise

#MotherNatureIsNotHappy #ClimateResilienceSMC

Location: Chalk Hill

As famed astrophysicist, author and science communicator Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson has shared, climate change will not make Earth uninhabitable, but it will make it a living hell. How we prepare for and respond to these drastic changes will determine the livability of our planet in the decades to come. California in general, and San Mateo County in particular, will see a dramatically different landscape if measures are not taken to fund and implement resiliency plans.

Panelists

- Josh Becker, Senator, District 13, California State Senate
- Len Materman, CEO, One Shoreline
- Tania Treis, Principal, Panorama Environmental

Moderators

- Don Cecil, Principal, MC² Bay Area Public & Government Affairs Consulting (Sessions 1 & 2)
- Lennies Gutierrez, Director of Government Affairs, South Bay & Peninsula, Comcast (Sessions 3 & 4)



Session Descriptions (Continued)

Breakout Session C

The Vulnerabilities of the Healthcare System and Why it Matters

#HealthcareVulnerabilities #WhyHealthMatters

Location: Russian River Valley Ballroom II

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed what has been known for some time: Our healthcare system (at all levels) is vulnerable. From lack of access, to staffing shortages, from federal funding cuts to the total costs of care, our decentralized healthcare system has opportunities to mitigate gaps, grow capacity and expand services. However, federal and state policy efforts both for healthcare and insurance regulation may present barriers to those opportunities. This panel will discuss the county's healthcare "system" and explore how its vulnerabilities can be shifted to its assets.

Panelists

- Patrick Curran, Chief Executive Officer, Health Plan San Mateo (Sessions 1 - 4)
- Shasta Addressi, Senior Vice President and Area Manager, Kaiser Permanente - San Mateo Service Area (Sessions 1 & 2)
- Michele Lew, Senior Vice President and Chief Government Relations Officer, Stanford Medicine Children's Health (Sessions 1 & 2)
- Darian Harris, CEO, Sutter Mills-Peninsula Medical Center (Sessions 3 & 4)
- Jennifer Torai, Senior Director of Local Government Affairs, Stanford Health Care (Sessions 3 & 4)

Moderator

- Bill Graham, President, Dignity Health Sequoia Hospital

Breakout Session D

Open for Business: Preparing the County and Cities to Meet the Moment of Better Economic Conditions

#OpenForBusinessSMC #MeetTheMomentSMC

Location: Dry Creek I

When segments of the economy rebound – lower inflation, stable markets, governmental fiscal stability – it will be imperative that the County and the cities on the Peninsula are prepared to embrace and support the growth that will be possible. This preparation will include the need for both commercial and residential real estate, streamlined permitting processes, a culture of nurturing development, and the will and stamina to see it through. This panel will discuss the opportunities and challenges of ensuring that San Mateo County is business-ready.

Panelists

- Alex Khojikian, City Manager, City of San Mateo (Sessions 1 & 2)
- Elaine Breeze, Senior Vice President of Development, SummerHill Apartment Communities (Sessions 1 & 2)
- Lauren Berman, Regional Lead Transportation, BKF Engineers (Sessions 1 & 2)
- Patrick Heisinger, Assistant City Manager, City of Redwood City (Sessions 3 & 4)
- Yuyu Lin, President, Commercial Development + Advisory, Sares Regis Group of Northern CA (Sessions 3 & 4)
- Dawn Jedkins, Principal, DES (Sessions 3 & 4)

Moderators

- Lisa Diaz Nash, Councilmember, City of San Mateo (Sessions 1 & 2)
- Jeff Gee, Councilmember, City of Redwood City (Sessions 3 & 4)

Breakout Session E

Values in Action: How the Public and Private Sectors are Implementing Strategies and Addressing Challenges to Meet their Communities Where They Are

#ValuesInAction2025 #PublicPrivateSolutions

Location: Dry Creek II

In spite of national conversations about dismantling public and private sector programs relating to diversity, equity and inclusion, there are core values that underpin every organization's focus on meeting their communities where they are and providing the resources, supports and services to ensure they are successful in whatever they are doing. Ensuring that these values are put into action requires intentionality and commitment. This panel of leaders will discuss how their organizations are guided by community values in furthering their work.

Panelists

- Kalimah Salahuddin, DEI Community Programs Manager, Exelixis
- Shireen Malekafzali Taidi, Chief Equity Officer, County of San Mateo
- Timothy Russell, Regional Director, Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center

Moderators

- Noelia Corzo, Supervisor – District 2, San Mateo County Board of Supervisors (Sessions 1 & 2)
- Eddie Flores, Mayor, City of South San Francisco (Sessions 3 & 4)

Session Descriptions (Continued)

Luncheon General Session

Rolling-up Our Sleeves: Evolving the State of California Through Engagement and Action

#RollingUpOurSleevesCA #EvolvingCalifornia

Location: Alexander Valley Grand Ballroom

Democracy is a messy business. By design, it is not elegant, and is often uncomfortable and dissatisfying. However, the results that it yields by tempering and balancing itself (over the long term), is quite remarkable. This balance is achieved, however, through intentional actions of individuals and organizations that advocate for and promote values, issues and approaches that shape the future direction of our local community, state and nation. This panel will discuss how they – and their organizations or sectors – are rolling-up their sleeves to do this work.

Keynote Panelists

- Brian Brennan, Executive Director, 21st Century Alliance
- Dr. Jamillah Moore, Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, San Francisco State University
- Rebecca Prozan, Founder, Prozan Strategies

Moderator

- Mike Callagy, County Executive, County of San Mateo

Closing General Session

The Driving Forces: Fantastic Motivators and Growing Concerns in Public Life

#DrivingForces2025 #WhatMovesPublicLife

Location: Alexander Valley Grand Ballroom

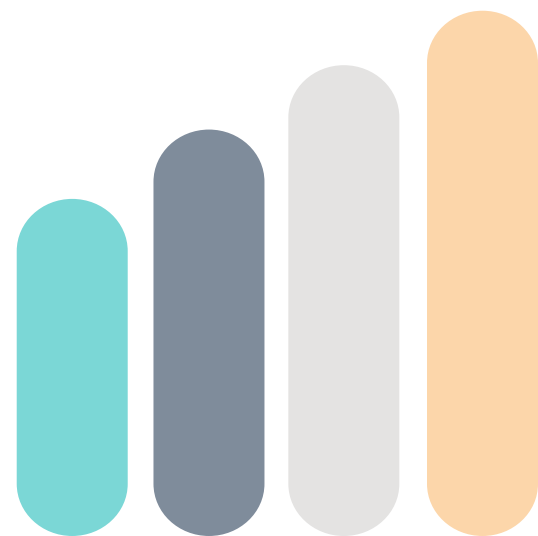
Public service, particularly in elective office, brings with it myriad opportunities, challenges and concerns. To enter the public arena, one generally has motivators that get them out of bed every morning in hopes of making the world a better place, and worries every night that keep them awake in the dark. This panel will share their insights about the state of the world through their lenses and share their fantastic motivators and growing concerns.

Panelists

- Sam Liccardo, Congressman – District 16, U.S. House of Representatives
- Malia Cohen, Controller, State of California
- Catherine Stefani, Assemblymember – District 19, California State Assembly
- Lisa Gauthier, Supervisor – District 4, San Mateo County Board of Supervisors

Moderators

- Rosanne Foust, President & CEO, SAMCEDA
- Don Cecil, Principal, MC² Bay Area Public & Government Affairs Consulting



Progress Seminar Attendees

Note: Names in **bold, teal** signify a Chamber San Mateo County Board Member. Names in **bold, black** signify a first-time Progress Seminar attendee.

Name	Title	Representing
Shasta Addressi	Senior Vice President & Area Manager	Kaiser Permanente
Adam Alberti	Managing Partner	Singer Associates
Tom Ames	Board of Directors	San Mateo County Event Center
Amanda Anthony	Economic Development Manager	City of Redwood City
Rhovy Lyn Antonio	Senior Vice President, Local Public Affairs	California Apartment Association
Adriana Arvizo	Senior Manager of Communications	Comcast
Gabby Aucello	MDU Sales Executive	Comcast
Mitchell Bailey	Owner & Principal Consultant	MBailey Advisors
Ian Bain	Executive Director, Strategy and Communications	San Mateo County Office of Education
Susan Baker	President & CEO	Burlingame/SFO Chamber of Commerce
Jason Baker	Director of Government Affairs	Caltrain
Ed Barberini	Chief of Police	San Mateo Police Department
Felicia Basques	Director of Administration	Chamber San Mateo County
Diana Bautista	Government Relations Manager	Stanford Medicine Children's Health
Emily Beach	Chief Communications Officer	San Mateo County Transit District
Josh Becker	Senator	California State Senate
Sue Beckmeyer	Mayor	City of Pacifica
Kristina Bell	Chief of Police	Redwood City Police Department
Laura Bent	CEO	Samaritan House
Lauren Berman	Regional Lead - Transportation	BKF Engineers
Jeff Birdwell	Managing Director, Commercial Development + Advisory	Sares Regis of Northern CA
Glen Bongi	General Manager	Recology of the Coast
Rolando Bonilla	Chief Strategy Officer	Voler Strategic Advisors
Chelsea Bonini	Board Member	San Mateo County Office of Education
Michelle Bouchard	Executive Director	Caltrain
Elaine Breeze	Senior Vice President of Development	SummerHill Apartment Communities
Brian Brennen	Executive Director	21st Century Alliance
Amy Buckmaster	President & Chief Executive Officer	Chamber San Mateo County
Mitch Bull	Economic Development Director	City of Brisbane
Mark Burri	Business Manager / Financial Secretary / Treasurer	Plumbers & HVACR Mechanics Local Union 467
David Burruto	District Director	Office of Assemblymember Diane Papan
Mike Callagy	County Executive	County of San Mateo
Hector Camacho	Executive Director	San Mateo County Office of Education
David Canepa	President of the Board	San Mateo County Board of Supervisors
Pete Casillas	Bay Area Market President & Publisher	San Francisco Business Times
Gustavo Castillo	Community Relations Manager	Monterra Credit Union
Katie Causey	Community Relations Manager	Sutter Health
Don Cecil	Principal	MC² Bay Area Public Affairs
Ally Chan	Legislative Aide	Office of Supervisor Noelia Corzo
April Chan	General Manager/Chief Executive Officer	San Mateo County Transit District
Chu Chang	Commissioner	Port of Redwood City
Marco Chavez	Deputy Superintendent, Educational Services	San Mateo County Office of Education

Progress Seminar Attendees

Name	Title	Representing
Bill Chiang	Regulatory Relations Advocacy Manager	Pacific Gas & Electric
Isabella Chu	Councilmember	City of Redwood City
Robert Chua	Founder & Principal	Avenues Consulting
Marie Chuang	Councilmember	Town of Hillsborough
Sam Chung	Vice President, State Government Relations	California Life Sciences
Heather Cleary	CEO	Peninsula Family Service
Jim Cogan	Strategic Partner	Unite Strategies
Malia Cohen	Controller	State of California
James Coleman	Councilmember	City of South San Francisco
Kate Comfort Harr	Executive Director	HIP Housing
Noelia Corzo	Supervisor, District 2	San Mateo County Board of Supervisors
Lisa Costa Sanders	Principal/ Co-Owner	Good City Company
Leah Cowan	Government Relations Manager	Sutter Health
Terrie Crenshaw	Employer Engagement Liaison	JobTrain
Claire Cunningham	Director	San Mateo County Human Services Agency
Patrick Curran	CEO	Health Plan San Mateo
Danielle Cwirko-Godycki	Councilmember	City of San Mateo
Roderick Daus-Magbual	Mayor	City of Daly City
Vikki Davis	Chief Human Resources Officer	Peninsula Family Service
Mitzy Del la Peña Medina	Director of Local Government	BMS
Rachel Del Monte	Chief Operating Officer	YMCA Silicon Valley
Monica Devincenzi	Municipal Sales Manager	Republic Services
Lisa Diaz Nash	Councilmember	City of San Mateo
Pamela DiGiovanni	Councilmember	City of Daly City
John Dugan	Councilmember	City of San Carlos
Kathy Duong	Public Policy Manager	Amazon
Michelle Droz	Executive Director	San Mateo County API Foundation/Caucus
Kaia Eakin	Vice Mayor	City of Redwood City
Steve Elliott	Executive Managing Director- Real Estate Development	Stanford University
Jessica Epstein	Director, Government and Community Affairs	San Mateo County Transit District
Theresa Faapuaa	Board of Directors	San Mateo County Event Center
Christina Falla	Legislative Aide	Office of Supervisor Noelia Corzo
Georgia Farooq	Executive Director	Thrive Alliance
Nicole Fernandez	Councilmember	City of San Mateo
Sarah Fields	Director of Community Engagement and Public Affairs	LifeMoves
Andrew Fijat	Project Manager	Longfellow Real Estate Partners
Sarah Fishleder	Director of Real Estate Development	Clear Channel Outdoor
Eddie Flores	Mayor	City of South San Francisco
Rosanne Foust	President & Chief Executive Officer	SAMCEDA
Connie Franco	Legislative Aide	Office of Supervisor Lisa Gauthier
Anders Fung	Mayor	City of Milbrae
Nicole Gallosa	Operations & Programs Coordinator	Chamber San Mateo County
Papia Gambelin	Managing Director – State & Local Government Affairs	United Airlines
Kevin Gardiner	Director of Advance Planning	Good City Company

Progress Seminar Attendees

Name	Title	Representing
Lisa Gauthier	Supervisor, District 4	San Mateo County Board of Supervisors
Jeff Gee	Vice President, Division Manager	Swinerton Management & Consulting
Krystlyn Giedt	CEO	Coastside Chamber
Alane Gilbrech	Executive Officer / Office Manager	San Mateo County Association of REALTORS
Emma Gonzalez	Chief Affairs and Programming, Office of Community Affairs	County of San Mateo
Javier González	Head of Local Government Affairs & Public Policy	Google
Manuel Gouveia	Area Director of Municipal Sales, West Area	Republic Services
Bill Graham	President	Sequoia Hospital Dignity Health
Desiree Green	Community Services Director	San Mateo County Central Labor Council
Greg Greenway	Executive Director	Seaport Industrial Association
Michael Guingona	Board President	San Mateo Co. Community College District
Lennies Gutierrez	Director of Government Affairs, South Bay & Peninsula	Comcast
James Haggarty	Board Member	San Mateo Co. Deputy Sheriff's Association
Tom Hamilton	Councilmember	City of San Bruno
Charles Hansen	Chief Program Officer	Peninsula Family Service
Kaarin Hardy	Co-Founder/ Co-President	Leadership Council San Mateo County
Darian Harris	CEO	Sutter Mills-Peninsula Medical Center
Mac Hart	Program Manager, Housing Preservation	HEART of San Mateo County
Jim Hartnett	CEO	HJSR Solutions
Barrie Hathaway	CEO	JobTrain
Stacey Hawver	Executive Director	Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County
Patrick Heisinger	Assistant City Manager	City of Redwood City
Cynthia Held	Director of Marketing	Monterra Credit Union
Marc Hershman	Director of Government Affairs	Peninsula Clean Energy
Marjory Ruiz Hidalgo	Senior Government Affairs Representative	Pacific Gas & Electric
Ariane Hogan	Head of Local Government Affairs	Genentech
Reuben Holober	Vice Mayor	City of Milbrae
Jim Hori	CEO	YMCA Silicon Valley
Diane Howard	Councilmember	City of Redwood City
Jerome Hubbard	Program Manager, External Communications	Sutter Health
Joshua Hugg	Governmental Affairs Program Manager	Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
John Hutar	CEO	The San Francisco Peninsula
Anne Im	Senior Director, Community Partnerships	Silicon Valley Community Foundation
Nori Jabba	Housing Coordinator	City of Foster City
Dawn Jedkins	Associate Principal	DES
Stacy Jimenez	Mayor	City of Foster City
Dana Johnson	LGBTQIA+ Commissioner & CoastPride Board Member	SMC LGBTQIA+ Commission & CoastPride
Connie Juarez-Diroll	Chief Legislative Officer	County of San Mateo
Sean Kali-rai	Co-Founder / Managing Partner	Unite Strategies
Ellen Kamei	Director of Government Affairs and Public Information Officer	Foothill De Anza Community College District
Lorianna Kastrop	Vice President/Chief Financial Officer	The Kastrop Group, Inc.
Mike Kastrop	Principal Architect	The Kastrop Group, Inc.
Allison Keany	CEO	Cow Palace

Progress Seminar Attendees

Name	Title	Representing
Rabiah Khalid	Manager of Community Interest	Comcast
Alex Khojikian	City Manager	City of San Mateo
Art Kiesel	Vice Mayor	City of Foster City
Pamela Kurtzman	CEO	Sequoia Healthcare District
Joe La Mariana	Executive Director	RethinkWaste
Maggie Lang	Chief Sales & Marketing Officer	The San Francisco Peninsula
Matt Larson	Principal	M Larson Consulting
Neil Layton	Councilmember	City of San Carlos
Albert Le	Manager of External Affairs	Comcast
Wayne Lee	Board Vice President	San Mateo Co. Community College District
Junsun Lee	Lieutenant	Redwood City Police Department
Cliff Lentz	Mayor	City of Brisbane
Felicia Leong	CEO	Daly City Colma Chamber of Commerce
Jeremy Levine	Policy Manager	Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo Co.
Michele Lew	Senior Vice President & Chief Government Relations Officer	Stanford Medicine Children's Health
Sam Liccardo	Congressman, District 16	U.S. House of Representatives
Yayu Lin	President, Commercial Development + Advisory	Sares Regis of Northern CA
Julie Lind	Executive Officer/Executive Secretary Treasurer	San Mateo County Central Labor Council
Kim Lopez	President	Cañada College
Kitty Lopez	Executive Director	First 5 San Mateo County
Adam Loraine	Deputy Mayor	City of San Mateo
Chris Lunny	Director of Real Estate & Facilities	Meta
Avery Lyford	Commissioner	City of Belmont, Parks & Recreation
Stephen Maduli-Williams	Senior Manager Economic Development Policy	Amazon
Shireen Malekafzali Taidi	Chief Equity Officer	County of San Mateo
Juslyn Manalo	Councilmember	City of Daly City
Ivan Martinez	Board President	Sequoia Healthcare District
Elmer Martinez Saballos	Mayor	City of Redwood City
Len Materman	CEO	OneShoreline
Julia Mates	Mayor	City of Belmont
Justin Mates	Deputy County Executive	County of San Mateo
Cassandra Matter	Communications Director and Legislative Policy Aide	Office of Supervisor Ray Mueller
Stan Maupin	Commissioner	Port of Redwood City
Sara McDowell	Mayor	City of San Carlos
Jim McGowan	Vice President Government Relations	YMCA Silicon Valley
Alex McIntyre	City Manager	City of San Bruno
David McLain	Executive Director of Community & Government Relations	San Mateo County Community College District
Cameryn McNab	Director	BMW Public Affairs
Marty Medina	Vice Mayor	City of San Bruno
Rico E. Medina	Mayor	City of San Bruno
Carl Mennie	Region Vice President	Recology
Nevada Merriman	Vice President, Policy and Advocacy	MidPen Housing
Aubrey Merriman	CEO	LifeMoves
Deborah Miller	Chief Advancement Officer	Peninsula Family Service

Progress Seminar Attendees

Name	Title	Representing
Marcela Miranda	Executive Director, College, Career & Community Partnerships	San Mateo County Office of Education
Marcus Mirt	General Manager	Recology San Mateo County
Teresa Montgomery	Sustainability Manager	South San Francisco Scavenger Company
Jamillah Moore	Vice President of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management	San Francisco State University
Melissa Moreno	Chancellor	San Mateo County Community College District
Seamus Murphy	Executive Director	San Francisco Bay Ferry
Mollie Naber	Director of Housing Development	MidPen Housing
Mark Nagales	Councilmember	City of South San Francisco
Robert Newsom Jr.	Mayor	City of San Mateo
Bob Nguyen	Councilmember	City of Milbrae
Simon North	Principal/Vice President	BKF Engineers
Larisa Ocañada	Marketing, Communications and Operations Manager	SAMCEDA
Diana O'Dell	Director, Land Use Planning	Stanford University
Mike O'Neill	Board Member	San Mateo County Office of Education
Afshin Oskoui	City Manager	City of Belmont
Meris Ota	Consultant	Real Estate Project Management
Christine Padilla	Director	Build Up San Mateo County
Marcella Padilla	Councilmember	City of Redwood City
Wade Painter	President & CEO	Monterra Credit Union
Bart Pantoja	Business Manager	Building & Construction Trades Council of SMC
Gina Papan	Comissioner	Metropolitan Transportation Commission
Andrea Pappajohn	Councilmember	City of Burlingame
Kathy Parmer-Lohan	Executive Director	San Carlos Education Foundation
Ben Paul	Executive Managing Director	Cushman & Wakefield
Fernando Peña	Government Affairs Director	San Mateo County Association of REALTORS
Kevin Perkey	Vice President	NOVAworks Launch Lab
Maya Perkins	Executive Director of Stakeholder Relations, Government Affairs	Stanford University
Frank Petrilli	Partner	Coblentz Patch Duffy & Bass LLP
Kirsten Pinochi	General Manager	Recology San Bruno
Margi Power	Co-President	Leadership Council San Mateo County
Mary Prem	CEO	South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
Teresa Proaño	Councilmember	City of Daly City
Rebecca Prozan	Founder	Prozan Strategies, LLC
Dave Pucci	Fire Chief	Central County Fire Department
Ana Pulido	CEO	Peninsula Health Care District
Gina Quiney	Chief of Staff	Office of Supervisor Ray Mueller
Ashley Quintana	Public Policy Manager	Meta
Stephen Rainaldi	Councilmember	City of Milbrae
Adam Rak	Councilmember	City of San Carlos
Patty Rally	Chief Development & Marketing Officer	YMCA Silicon Valley
Victoria Ramirez	Director of State and Local Government Affairs	Stanford Health Care

Progress Seminar Attendees

Name	Title	Representing
Christina Ramos	Senior Government Affairs	Pacific Gas & Electric
Sharon Ranals	City Manager	City of South San Francisco
Daniela Ray-Ardila	Program Manager	Stanford Medicine Children's Health
Nkia Richardson	Executive Director	CASA of San Mateo County
Sissy Riley	Councilmember	City of Milbrae
Alex Rinear	Waste Zero Manager	Recology San Mateo County
Iliana Rodriguez	Assistant County Executive Officer	County of San Mateo
Timothy Russell	Regional Director	Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center
Rich Sacher	Executive Vice President & District Manager	Graniterock
Juan Salazar	Public Policy Manager, Local Policy and Community Affairs	Meta
Kalimah Saluhuddin	DEI Community Programs Manager	Exelixis
Armando Sanchez	Executive Director	HEART of San Mateo County
Jessica Sanders	Marketing and Business Development Coordinator	Chamber San Mateo County
Jeff Schmidt	Councilmember	City of Menlo Park
Ruth Shikada	Vice President, Government & External Affairs	Bay Area Host Committee
Inessa Shishmanyen	Chief Financial & Technology Officer	Peninsula Family Service
Gina Simi	Public Policy and Regulatory Affairs	Zoox
Kiana Simmons	Communications Strategist	Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo Co.
Thomas Smegal	CEO/General Manager	Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency
Jeff Smith	Co-President, Construction	Sares Regis Group of Northern CA
Vanessa Smith	Legislative Aide	Office of Supervisor Lisa Gauthier
Jenny Stahler	Business Manager	Redwood City Police Department
Catherine Stefani	Assemblymember, District 19	California State Assembly
Dana Stoehr	CEO	San Mateo County Event Center
Charles Stone	Partner	Goethals & Stone, PC
Chris Sturken	Councilmember	City of Redwood City
Patrick Sullivan	Councilmember	City of Foster City
Jennifer Sussman	Senior Vice President & Chief Marketing Officer	Monterra Credit Union
Shalini Swaroop	Chief Operating Officer	Peninsula Clean Energy
Glenn Sylvester	Vice Mayor	City of Daly City
Angela Taylor	Director	San Mateo Adult & Career Education
Nicole Taylor	President & CEO	Silicon Valley Community Foundation
Cecilia Taylor	Councilmember	City of Menlo Park
Robert Tersini	Senior Vice President	The Sobrato Organization
Christine Thorsteinson	Director, Early Childhood Initiatives	Silicon Valley Community Foundation
Crystal Tilton	Executive Director	Foster City Chamber of Commerce
Amar Tiwari	Clean Energy Developer	ENGIE
Jennifer Torai	Senior Director of Local Government Affairs	Stanford Health Care
Hugo Torres	Board President	San Mateo County Board of Education
Tania Treis	Principal	Panorama Environmental
Rob Trujillo	Vice President & General Manager	DirtMarket
Eddie Truong	Co-Founder / Partner	Unite Strategies

Progress Seminar Attendees

Name	Title	Representing
Peter Tsai	Principal	Cadence Investments
Matt Turturici	Fire Chief	San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department
Molly Vandemoer	Executive Director	Peninsula Youth Sailing Foundation (PYSF)
Ana Vasudeo	Government and Community Affairs Manager	SamTrans
Joey Vaughan	Manager of Community Partnerships	Stanford Medicine Children's Health
Frank Vella	President	San Mateo County Association of REALTORS
Phoebe Venkat	Councilmember	City of Foster City
Pranita Venkatesh	Vice Mayor	City of San Carlos
Michael G. Verdone	Director	San Mateo County Association of REALTORS
Alison Wagner	Senior Project Manger	BMWL Public Affairs
Stacey Wagner	Director - Public Affairs	Kaiser Permanente
Thomas Walsh	Councilmember	Town of Colma
Devon Wardlow	Vice President Public Affairs	Embarc
Alicia White	Business Development Manager	Comcast
John Whitehurst	Principal	BMWL Public Affairs
Lucy Wicks	Assistant Vice President, Government Affairs	Stanford University
Tom Williams	City Manager	City of Milbrae
Greg Wright	Councilmember	City of Pacifica
Kat Wuelfing	General Manager	Mid-Peninsula Water District
Isabella Yee Brown	Community Engagement Program Manager	Leadership Council San Mateo County
Alex Youn	Director of Government Affairs	Comcast
Moses Zapien	Executive Vice President, Community Action, Initiatives and Policy	Silicon Valley Community Foundation
John Zirelli	General Manager	Recology San Mateo County
Irma Zoepf	Chief Operating Officer	Thrive Alliance
Kristine Zortman	Executive Director	Port of Redwood City

2024 Annual Report

Scan the QR code to Read Chamber San Mateo County's 2024 Annual Report.



Progress Seminar Presenters



Shasta Addressi

Senior Vice President/Area Manager, Kaiser Permanente

Shasta Addressi was appointed Senior Vice President and Area Manager of Kaiser Permanente's San Mateo service area in 2024, overseeing the Redwood City and South San Francisco medical centers. In this role, Shasta is responsible for hospital operations and the Kaiser Foundation Health Plan for the more than 257,000 members in the county.

A San Mateo native, Shasta developed a deep appreciation for community, customer service, and employee care through her family's grocery business. Her healthcare career began as an intern at the San Mateo Medical Center, followed by leadership roles at Mills-Peninsula Medical Center.

Since joining Kaiser Permanente in 2021, Shasta has held key leadership roles, most recently serving as Chief Operating Officer at Kaiser Permanente Santa Clara Medical Center before assuming her current position.

Shasta currently serves on the Board of Directors for SAMCEDA and the California Association of Healthcare Leaders. She lives in San Mateo County with her husband and their two sons.



Josh Becker

Senator, California State Senate

Senator Becker is a public policy innovator working at the nexus of climate, community activism, technology, data privacy and consumer protection, and social justice. Elected in November 2020, Senator Becker represents most of San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties.

He is the author of several bills focused on accelerating California's transition to 100% clean energy and net zero emissions, voter access and justice reforms, and leveraging technology to provide greater economic mobility and privacy rights for all Californians.

He chairs the Senate Committee on Energy, Utilities and Communications. He also is a member of the Senate Committees on Human Services and Insurance and the Joint Legislative Audit Committee. He was also unanimously elected as Chair of the California Legislative Bay Area Caucus and has been serving as Vice Chair of the California Legislative Jewish Caucus for over two years.

Josh earned a JD/MBA from Stanford University in 1999. He is a 20-year resident of Menlo Park, where he lives with his wife and two children.



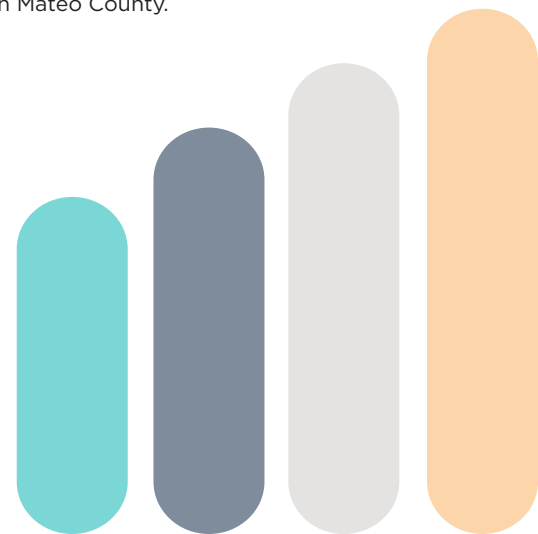
Lauren Berman

Regional Lead – Local Government Transportation, BKF Engineers

Lauren is the Bay Area Regional Lead for Local Government Transportation Projects at BKF Engineers, where she leads a team of engineers providing civil engineering and transportation design services for cities, counties and public agencies across the Bay Area. Her team's projects range from complete streets, active transportation, transit oriented development plans, community-based transportation plans, county and state park trails, traffic signal and intersections, and city and county on-call engineering services.

Lauren is an appointed member of the Pacifica Planning Commission, where she is in her second four-year term of volunteer service. Current initiatives that she and the Commission are supporting City Council with are Local Coastal Land Use Plan certification, zoning amendments in support of the Housing Element, and defining objective design criteria for new development.

Being a San Mateo County native, Lauren remains connected to her community by serving as her high school's Alumni Board President and sitting on the local Selective Service System board for San Mateo County.



Progress Seminar Presenters



Elaine Breeze

Senior Vice President of Development, SummerHill Apartment Communities

Elaine has been with SummerHill Apartment Communities since 2008 and is responsible for project entitlements and development for new communities in Northern California.

She has been affiliated with the Marcus & Millichap companies since 1988, starting as a research analyst. While holding the positions as Senior Vice President and Managing Director with affiliate SummerHill Homes until 2008, she oversaw the development of award-winning single-family and multifamily for-sale projects throughout San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties.

Elaine graduated from the University of California, Berkeley in 1988 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History. She completed post-graduate studies in Real Estate and Architecture at UC Berkeley and courses in Construction Practices at San Jose State University.

She is a member of the SAMCEDA Executive Board and HEART of San Mateo County Board. She has previously served on the boards of San Mateo County Home for All, Grand Boulevard Task Force, San Mateo County Historical Association, San Mateo Area Chamber of Commerce, Hillsborough Auxiliary to Peninsula Family Service, and AbilityPath.



Brian Brennan

Executive Director, 21st Century Alliance

Brian Brennan is Executive Director of the 21st Century Alliance, an organization formed by former State Controller Steve Westly in 2021 to address the political impediments to building more homes, raising K-12 student outcomes and fostering a strong jobs climate in California.

Prior to joining the 21st Century Alliance, Brian served for 14 years in various roles with the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, most recently as organization's Senior Vice President of Research & Strategic Initiatives. Prior to joining the Leadership Group in 2008, Brian worked on political development programs for the U.S. Agency for International Development in Russia, and served with international affairs nonprofits in California, Texas and Mexico. He currently serves on the boards of California Common Cause and the Catholic Community Foundation.

Brian has a DPhil in Comparative Government from the University of Oxford, and related degrees from Princeton and Stanford. A Monterey County native, Brian now lives in Silicon Valley with his wife, Wendy, and their three children.



Mike Callagy

County Executive, County of San Mateo

As County Executive Officer, Mike Callagy oversees the efficient running of daily County operations and carries out policies established by the Board of Supervisors. Mike joined the County in 2013 as a Deputy County Manager and was named Assistant County Manager in April 2016. In November 2018, he assumed the role of County Manager after being appointed by the Board of Supervisors. In this role, Mike has made ending homelessness a key priority and has deemed 2022 "The Year of Working Together to End Homelessness."

Mike has more than 37 years of public sector service experience. Before joining the County, Mike spent 29 years with the San Mateo Police Department, running day-to-day operations as the deputy police chief until his retirement. He is a licensed attorney and in addition to his law degree from Santa Clara University, holds a Bachelor of Arts and Master's in public administration from the College of Notre Dame and a Master's in homeland defense and security from the Naval Postgraduate School.



David Canepa

President of the Board, San Mateo County Board of Supervisors

David J. Canepa is a dedicated fourth-generation San Mateo County resident, deeply rooted in the community he serves. Raised in Pacifica and now residing in Daly City with his wife and their young son, Canepa has built a life defined by service and advocacy. A former Daly City mayor, he currently serves as President of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors in his third term. His leadership reflects a passionate commitment to fairness, equity and meeting the needs of the diverse communities he serves.

As a leader, Supervisor Canepa prioritizes bold, forward-thinking initiatives to tackle the region's most pressing challenges. His work focuses on improving public transportation, addressing the chronic housing shortage, promoting public health and safety and prioritizing investments for children, families and older adults.

Supervisor Canepa serves on several regional boards and commissions including the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, SamTrans, the San Mateo Medical Center, the San Mateo Health Commission, the Behavioral Health Commission and the Commission on Aging among others.

Progress Seminar Presenters



Don Cecil

Principal, MC² Bay Area Public Affairs Consulting

Don Cecil has been providing public and government affairs consulting to corporations, public agencies, trade associations, campaigns, and nonprofits in the Bay Area for the past 25 years. Don works successfully on behalf of clients, stakeholders, and issues by maintaining positive relationships and always being honest and focused on solutions with all parties.

Don founded MC2 Bay Area Public Affairs Consulting in 2010 with the late Muffie Meier. The firm remains focused on matters that improve local government, build strong communities for residents and businesses, and create a common sense balance between a strong local economy, land use development, responsive government, and enhanced quality of life. MC2 blends an extensive network in business, government, media, and community circles – resulting in customized, intelligent, and winning approaches for clients.



Malia M. Cohen

California State Controller

As chief fiscal officer of the world's fifth-largest economy, Controller Malia Cohen's primary responsibility is to account for and protect the state's financial resources. Controller Cohen also independently audits government agencies that spend state funds, safeguards many types of property until claimed by the rightful owners, and administers the payroll system for state government employees and California State University employees. She serves on 70 boards and commissions with authority ranging from affordable housing to crime victim compensation to land management. Controller Cohen chairs the Franchise Tax Board and serves on the boards of the nation's two largest public pension funds, the California Public Employees' Retirement System and the California State Teachers' Retirement System Boards, which have a combined portfolio of \$750 billion.

Controller Cohen has championed policies and programs that protect public health, foster economic development, promote new affordable housing, and create good jobs. She has dedicated her career to public service, focusing on building a California where everyone thrives.



Noelia Corzo

Supervisor – District 2, San Mateo County Board of Supervisors

A lifelong resident of San Mateo County, Noelia Corzo is the daughter of Guatemalan immigrants and a proud graduate of all local public schools including Cañada College and San Francisco State University. Noelia became a mother at the age of 20 and has worked as a foster youth advocate, community organizer, and non-profit social worker.

In 2017, she was elected as a trustee for the San Mateo-Foster City School District and served for five years. Supervisor Corzo began her term in January of 2023 and became the first Latina and Indigenous County Supervisor in San Mateo County history.

Supervisor Corzo represents District 2 which is made up of San Mateo, Foster City, and over half of Belmont, but prides herself on having a county-wide and regional approach to her decision-making. Most importantly, she is Mikey's mama and a dog-mom to their dog, Quetzi.



Patrick Curran

Chief Executive Officer, Health Plan San Mateo

Patrick became CEO of HPSM in February 2022, succeeding Maya Altman, who served as CEO for 16 years. He joined HPSM in 2016 as Deputy CEO. In that role he developed provider learning collaboratives, implemented the first dental integration program for Medi-Cal and led company goal-setting and strategic planning. Prior to HPSM, Patrick served in various leadership roles at CareOregon, a nonprofit community-based health plan based in Portland. He began his tenure at CareOregon in 2003 as Director of Provider Services and was appointed CEO in 2012. He led the organization through state and federal health reform, developing and implementing Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs). Patrick's career also includes leadership roles in medical group management, Independent Practice Association (IPA) operations, network management and provider payment model design.

He received his bachelor's degree from Santa Clara University and his master's degree in Public Health from San Diego State University.

Progress Seminar Presenters



Eddie Flores

Mayor, City of South San Francisco

Eddie Flores represents District 5 of South San Francisco on the city council, and currently serves as the Mayor of South San Francisco. He was first appointed to the Council in 2021 and was subsequently elected in 2022. With his election, he is the first Salvadoran to serve on a City Council in San Mateo County, and only the second Latino to serve in South San Francisco's history. Prior to joining the council, Mayor Eddie was elected to the South San Francisco Unified School District Board of Trustees in 2018. He served as Board President in 2020-2021.

Currently, Eddie works as Acting Director of Community Relations and Marketing and Public Information Officer at the College of San Mateo. He was the first in his family to graduate from a four-year university, earning undergraduate and graduate degrees in public policy and public health from UC Berkeley and an MBA from San Francisco State University.



Rosanne Foust

President & CEO, San Mateo County Economic Development Association (SAMCEDA)

As President and CEO of SAMCEDA, Rosanne Foust directs conversations important to maintaining a strong local and regional economy, attracting and retaining major employers and good jobs, and creating partnerships between business and government to address the critical issues of affordable housing, mobility improvements and maintaining a good quality of life. Previously, Rosanne had a twenty-year career with Alsace Development International USA, Inc. Most recently, Rosanne is a newly appointed Board Member of the Sequoia Healthcare District.

Rosanne served for twelve years on the City Council in Redwood City, including as Mayor and Vice Mayor. She has also served on and led numerous boards and commissions. Rosanne holds a master's degree in public administration and bachelor of arts degree in International Studies and Economics.

The San Francisco Business Times has honored Ms. Foust as one of the "Most Influential Women in Business in the Bay Area" (from 2009 until the present), "Businesswoman and Person of the Year" by Chamber San Mateo County, named "Woman of the Year" by then Assembly Speaker Pro Tempore Kevin Mullin, and was inducted to the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.



Lisa Gauthier

Supervisor - District 2, San Mateo County Board of Supervisors

Supervisor Lisa Gauthier was elected to the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors in November 2024. She represents District 4, which includes Redwood City, East Palo Alto, the areas within Menlo Park east of El Camino Real and including the Belle Haven neighborhood, and the unincorporated community of North Fair Oaks.

Supervisor Gauthier was elected to the East Palo Alto City Council in 2012. She held the positions of Vice Mayor in 2014, 2018, and 2022, and Mayor in 2015, 2019, and 2023. In addition to her roles in city government, Supervisor Gauthier served as the Senior Vice President of Inclusion & Belonging at the Silicon Valley Leadership Group.

Supervisor Gauthier is an active board member of the City/County Association of Governments, San Mateo County Office of Emergency Services, San Mateo County's One Shoreline Agency and a regional area director for Black Women Organized for Political Action.

Her contributions have been recognized as one of Silicon Valley's 100 Women of Influence by the Silicon Valley Business Journal in 2020, and receiving the Woman of the Year Award from Assemblymember Marc Berman in 2022.



Jeff Gee

Councilmember, City of Redwood City

Jeff Gee currently serves as a Councilmember for District 1 in Redwood City. This is his fourth term on Council and has served as Mayor in 2023-24 and 2014-15. He is also the current Chair of SamTrans, the chair of the Transbay Joint Powers Authority (TJPA) in San Francisco, and a director on the Joint Powers Board which oversees the operations of Caltrain.

In his professional work, Jeff is the Division Manager/General Manager for Swinerton Management & Consulting, the professional services company at Swinerton. He has over sixty staff in offices throughout California providing program, project, and construction management services to Owners along with strategic consulting on design and construction projects.

Jeff also serves on several non-profit boards, is a Trustee at Palo Alto University, a past-Chairman of the Board for Chamber San Mateo County, and a Leadership Graduate. Jeff is also the Dean for the Planning, Design and Construction track at APPA - Leadership in Educational Facilities. APPA is the most tenured higher education organization in the country focused on providing leadership in education facilities management.

Progress Seminar Presenters



Bill Graham

President, Dignity Health Sequoia Hospital

Bill Graham is the President of Dignity Health Sequoia Hospital. As President, Bill oversees operations and strategy of a 208-bed hospital serving the San Francisco Bay Area peninsula, including the nationally recognized Heart and Vascular Institute, the Family Birth Center, and the Center for Total Joint Replacement. Prior to being named Sequoia's President in 2015, Bill served jointly as both Vice President of Physician and Business Development for Sequoia Hospital and Chief Strategy Officer for Dignity Health's Bay Area Service Area.

Bill serves on numerous boards including the Chamber San Mateo County, San Mateo County Economic Development Association, the Hospital Council of Northern California – San Mateo Section, Retirement Plans Sub-Committee of the CommonSpirit Health Board of Stewardship (Chair), the Cañada College Presidents Advisory Committee, and the San Jose State University College of Health and Human Services Advisory Committee.

He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing at Santa Clara University and has a Master of Public Health degree from San Jose State University.



Lennies Gutierrez

Chair of the Board, Chamber San Mateo County

Director of Government Affairs for the South Bay and Southern Peninsula, Comcast

Lennies was raised in small rural town in Northern California where Spanish was her first language. Currently she is the Director of Government Affairs for Comcast and previously worked at the California State Capitol.

Recognized by San Jose Spotlight in October 2023 as a "Latino Leader Shaping Silicon Valley" and featured in Hispanic Executive magazine in March 2023 as a leader in Corporate America, Lennies is a seasoned government affairs and community engagement professional with more than twenty-five years of experience in public policy, political engagement and relationship building.

Lennies' experience expands to Fortune 50 companies, government entities, non-profit organizations, and public service. She has participated in several leadership development programs including Leadership Redwood City/San Carlos/Belmont/Menlo Park, the HOPE Leadership Institute and is an American Leadership Forum/Silicon Valley Senior Fellow. She is an active board member of Chamber San Mateo County, the PAL Center in Redwood City, Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE) and the Comcast National Unidos Advisory Council.

She is a graduate of the University of California at Davis and the Lorenzo Patiño Law School of Sacramento. Lennies is married with two children.



Darian Harris

CEO, Sutter Mills-Peninsula Medical Center

In 2023, Darian Harris made history as both the youngest and the first African American CEO of Mills-Peninsula Medical Center, a key institution within the not-for-profit Sutter Health network. In just his first two years, Harris led transformative growth strategies that propelled an expansion of access to inpatient and outpatient services. Under his leadership, Mills-Peninsula has earned national recognitions as one of the top 50 hospitals in America.

Before coming to Sutter, Harris served as the chief executive for Providence St. Joseph Hospital and Providence Redwood Memorial Hospital in Humboldt County, and prior to this role, he served as the chief executive for Providence's Healdsburg and Petaluma Valley hospitals in Sonoma County.

Harris was born in North Carolina and spent much of his childhood on military bases abroad, including in England and Germany. He holds a master's degree in healthcare administration from the University of Washington and a bachelor's degree in health services management from East Carolina University. While earning his bachelor's degree with honors, he was also a member of the Division 1 East Carolina University football team.



Patrick Heisinger

Assistant City Manager, City of Redwood City

Since August 2023, Patrick Heisinger has been the Assistant City Manager of Redwood City, where he provides oversight to the City's Community Development, Engineering and Transportation, Economic Development, and Housing departments. Before joining Redwood City, he served as Interim City Manager/Assistant City Manager for the City of East Palo Alto, Division Manager for the City of San Jose, and Redevelopment Project Manager for the County of Santa Cruz.

Patrick brings 20 years of public sector experience, with a focus on land use planning, affordable housing, real estate, economic and infrastructure development, and social services.

Progress Seminar Presenters



John Hutar
CEO, The San Francisco Peninsula

John's career path began in the IT and accounting disciplines with Stouffer Hotels. His infatuation solving complex puzzles set him on the hotel operations path leading him to the General Manager position of the Hotel Nikko San Francisco in 1997. From there, John managed highly acclaimed properties that include The Westin St. Francis, The MGM Grand Detroit and The Sofitel in Redwood Shores. John served as a board member and officer of The San Francisco Peninsula from 2009 - 2019 when he became the organization's President and CEO. John serves on the executive committee of The California Travel Association and Visit California's DMO/CEO Council. John and his wife Lisa reside in Burlingame where they enjoy spending time with their three granddaughters and advocating for individuals with developmental disabilities.



Dawn Jenkins
Associate Principal/Project Executive, DES

Dawn's focus as a Senior Designer and Associate Principal is on guiding ground-up projects from planning and design through entitlements, and doing so with a focus on bringing diverse stakeholders to consensus on common goals. She enjoys engaging with communities and collaborating with clients and teammates. She is passionate about conceptual design and strategic about the visioning process, an approach that has brought to life many significant projects across the Bay Area over the past 18 years.

As well as her degree in architecture, Dawn has completed a graduate program at Stanford University in business entrepreneurship, and brings that perspective to her client-centric working process.



Allison Keaney
CEO, Cow Palace

Allison Keaney is the CEO of the historic Cow Palace in Daly City and San Francisco. She has previously managed the Sonoma-Marin Fairgrounds and the Cloverdale Citrus Fair. Prior to joining the fairgrounds industry, she worked for UC Cooperative Extension, Marin County 4-H and the private sector in training, development, human resources, and strategic planning. She is passionate about connecting people with agriculture - food, clothing, and shelter -- in fun and engaging ways, and connecting organizations and people with each other. She is also passionate about the emergency response role fulfilled by fairgrounds and serves as the secretary/treasurer for the California Emergency Response and Resiliency Venues & Fairgrounds and as a board member of the California Fairs Alliance and the Marin Cultural Association. She holds an M.B.A. from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo and a PhD in non-profit management from Capella University.



Alex Khojikian
City Manager, City of San Mateo

Alex has over twenty years of experience managing city services and community relations for small, medium and large municipal governments. He currently serves as the City Manager for the City of San Mateo. Prior to working in San Mateo, Alex served as the Assistant City Manager and the Acting Community Development and Transportation Director for the City of Redwood City.

Prior to working in Redwood City, Alex served as the Deputy City Manager for the City of Half Moon Bay. In that role he worked extensively on the new Half Moon Bay Library project and took on leadership roles with a variety of capital improvement projects. He also led efforts to reorganize and establish City departments to maximize organizational, operational and service efficiencies.

Alex has an undergraduate degree in political science and a minor in public policy from the University of California, Berkeley and a master's degree in public administration from California State University Long Beach.



Maggie Lang
Chief Sales & Marketing Officer, The San Francisco Peninsula

Maggie Lang is the Chief Sales & Marketing Officer for The San Francisco Peninsula, our region's Destination Marketing Organization. She oversees all commercial activities that drives leisure and group visitation to San Mateo County. Prior to joining the SFP, Maggie oversaw Marketing & PR for 3-Michelin starred SingleThread Restaurant and Farm in Healdsburg. Her hospitality career has also included long tenure overseeing Marketing & Guest Experience at Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants, as well as Brand and Loyalty at United Airlines. Maggie is a member of Visit California's Marketing & Brand Committee, as well as its newly formed Culinary Council.

Progress Seminar Presenters



Michele Lew

Senior Vice President and Chief Government Relations Officer, Stanford Medicine Children's Health

Michele Lew serves as Senior Vice President and Chief Government Relations Officer for Stanford Medicine Children's Health. Prior to joining Stanford, Michele served as CEO of The Health Trust, a nonprofit operating foundation focused on building health equity in Silicon Valley, and CEO of AACI, a nonprofit community health center in San Jose. In addition, Michele served as the district director for former California state legislator Joe Simitian. Michele has served on numerous nonprofit boards, and she served as the community member on the San Jose Mercury News editorial board. A Santa Clara County native, Michele holds a B.A. in economics from Yale University and a Master in Public Policy degree from Harvard University.



Sam Liccardo

Sam Liccardo, Congressman – District 16, U.S. House of Representatives

Congressman Sam Liccardo represents the 16th Congressional District in the United States House of Representatives. He's focused on addressing the issues that matter most to residents, including homelessness, the rising cost of living, gun violence prevention, and standing up for reproductive rights and preserving democracy. Prior to his tenure in Congress, Sam served as the Mayor of San Jose and as a prosecutor in both the SCC DA's Office and in the Southern District of California.



Julie Lind

Executive Officer/Executive Secretary-Treasurer, San Mateo County Central Labor Council

Julie Lind is a fourth-generation union member and is proudly in her fifteenth year with the San Mateo Labor Council. Julie began her career over 20 years ago working as a legislative staffer. Julie came to the San Mateo Labor Council in 2010 as the Political Director and became head of the organization in 2016.

Julie currently serves as a member of the State Federation/Central Labor Council Advisory Committee, Chair of the Board of the San Mateo County Union Community Alliance and Vice President of the California Federation of Labor Unions and served on the 2018 San Mateo County Charter Review Commission.

Julie has a bachelor's degree in English and a master's degree in Public Administration from San Jose State University. She serves as Vice President of the NOVAworks Board and is a member of the Chamber SMC Board. Julie has served as a Co-Chair of the Progress Seminar since 2021 and was honored as Chamber San Mateo County's 2023 Woman of the Year. Outside of work Julie volunteers in her second grader's classroom and is an active member of the PTA.



Yayu Lin

President, Commercial Development + Advisory, Sares Regis Group of Northern CA

Yayu Lin joined Sares Regis in 2005. With Jeff Birdwell, Yayu leads the Commercial Development and Advisory division. Yayu oversees and provides strategic direction for a portfolio of commercial development projects. Her prior work includes serving as an analyst with Ernst & Young Real Estate Advisory Services and as an engineering consultant with Parsons Brinckerhoff.

Yayu holds a bachelor of science degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering from UC Berkeley and a master of science degree in Construction Engineering and Management from Stanford University. She has been recognized as a 2023 Most Influential Women honoree by the San Francisco Business Times, as a 2022 Women of Influence honoree by the Silicon Valley Business Journal, a 2022 BisNow Bay Area Women Leading Real Estate Awards honoree and a 2021 BisNow Bay Area Power Women honoree.



Len Materman

CEO, One Shoreline

In early 2020, Len Materman was appointed CEO of the San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District, also known as OneShoreline. OneShoreline was established by State legislation on January 1st of that year as the first independent government agency in California focused on planning for and reducing a region's climate change impacts.

Len recently served as the first Public Policy Practitioner in Residence at Stanford University's Center for the American West and was a contributing author of two recent books on financing and implementing large-scale climate resilience. Previously, Len led a regional government agency on the San Francisco Peninsula that completed the largest multi-jurisdictional sea level rise protection effort in the state.

During the Clinton Administration, Len served as an advisor to the Director of FEMA and as FEMA's representative on two White House Task Forces. Before working in Washington DC, Len was the Director of Government Affairs at UC Berkeley. He has degrees in Political Science and Biology from UC Davis.

Progress Seminar Presenters



Jamillah Moore
Vice President for Student Affairs & Enrollment Management, San Francisco State University

Jamillah Moore, Ed.D., is vice president for Student Affairs & Enrollment Management at San Francisco State University. Previously, Dr. Moore served as the president of Cañada College in Redwood City from 2016 to 2021, where she established the campus’ anti-racist framework, a program to support Latinx students with transfer pathways to San Francisco State and co-chaired the San Mateo County Community College District’s Basic Needs Task Force.

Dr. Moore previously served as vice chancellor of Educational Services and Planning at the San Mateo Community College District, chancellor of the Ventura Community College District, president of Los Angeles City College, interim superintendent/president of Compton Community College and senior vice chancellor for Governmental and External Relations for the California Community College Chancellor’s Office.

A native Californian, Moore holds two degrees from California State University, Sacramento: a bachelor’s degree in Communication and a master’s degree in Intercultural Communication and Public Policy. She also earned a doctorate from the University of San Francisco in International and Multicultural Education.



Lisa Diaz Nash
Councilmember, City of San Mateo

Lisa Diaz Nash has resided in San Mateo County for nearly 25 years and in San Mateo for 10+ years. She was elected to the San Mateo City Council in November 2022 and served as Mayor in 2024. Lisa’s Council focus has been the revitalization of Downtown San Mateo, investment in City infrastructure, and planning for San Mateo’s future. Lisa was a proponent of Measure T, the November 2024 voter-approved ballot initiative increasing heights and densities near major San Mateo public transit to encourage more housing while maintaining San Mateo’s vibrant neighborhoods.

Lisa has served on various local boards, including the San Mateo Public Library, Rotary Haciendas Low-Income Senior Housing and HIP Housing. She brings valuable experience to her community with her career as a domestic and international consumer marketer and CEO of a global clean water nonprofit. Recognized as a Silicon Valley 100 Women of Influence, Lisa holds a Harvard Executive MBA, a BA with Honors from Swarthmore College, and a Graduate Certificate in Mandarin Chinese from National Taiwan University.



Rebecca Prozan
Founder, Prozan Strategies

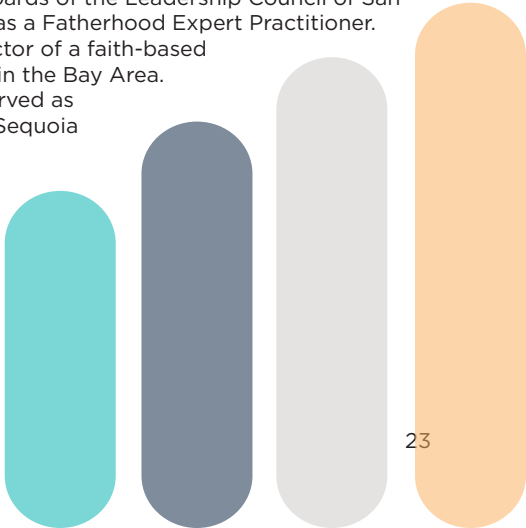
Rebecca Prozan is a highly accomplished public affairs and policy executive with a proven track record of success in navigating complex legislative and regulatory landscapes. As Director of West Region Government Affairs and Public Policy at Google, she led a team responsible for state and local government relations across 11 western states. Her expertise includes legislative lobbying, community relations, strategic partnerships, and crisis management. Prior to Google, Rebecca served in the San Francisco District Attorney’s Office for ten years, including as Community Relations Director and Neighborhood Prosecutor. Notably, she managed Vice President Kamala Harris’ first campaign for District Attorney. She also has a strong background in civic engagement, having served as a San Francisco Recreation and Park Commissioner and Special Assistant to Mayor Willie Brown. Rebecca is actively involved in her community, serving on the boards of sf.citi and the Victory Institute. She holds a JD from Golden Gate University and a BA from UC Santa Cruz and is an active member of the California State Bar.



Timothy Russell
Regional Director, Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center

Timothy is the Regional Director at Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center, where he oversees program staff, consultants, and operations in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties. He also serves on the boards of the Leadership Council of San Mateo County and Man 2 Man Urban, an organization that advocates for youth as a Fatherhood Expert Practitioner. Before joining Renaissance, Timothy spent over a decade as the Executive Director of a faith-based nonprofit dedicated to serving underserved and under-resourced communities in the Bay Area. His career has been largely focused on education and empowerment, having served as Education Director and Dean of Students at the National Training Institute and Sequoia Institute, where he helped men and women achieve self-sufficiency.

Additionally, Timothy is the Associate Supervisor of the Western District for the International Foursquare Church, overseeing 105 churches across California and Nevada.



Progress Seminar Presenters



Kalimah Salahuddin
DEI Community Programs Manager, Exelixis

Kalimah Salahuddin is a former Trustee of the Jefferson Union High School District Board of Education, where she served for 12 years.

At the County level, she serves on the Shared Prosperity Council and is the San Mateo County Sheriff Independent Civilian Advisory Commission Chair. She is one of the founding members of the REACH Coalition, an advocacy group of elected officials and community leaders of color to increase equity and community health for all. She also serves on the Boards of the ACLU, Northern California Chapter, San Mateo County NAACP, Housing Leadership Council of San Mateo County, Daly City Youth Health Center, and the Daly City Public Library Associates. She previously served as a Board Member for Habitat for Humanity Greater San Francisco.

She is employed at Exelixis as the DEI Community Programs Manager and is a mother to three wonderful adults.



Ruth Mizobe Shikada
Vice President of Government Affairs, Bay Area Host Committee

Ruth joined the Bay Area Host Committee in January 2024. In this capacity she manages BAHC's government relationships at local, state and federal levels and collaborates with key community stakeholders to bring mega sporting events to the Bay Area.

With more than 30 years of experience in local government, Ruth has led numerous public-private partnerships and public policy initiatives in an executive management capacity. Before joining BAHC, Ruth was an executive manager for the City of Santa Clara with more than eight years as Assistant City Manager. Before her tenure at the City of Santa Clara, Ruth held key positions at the San Jose Redevelopment Agency and the City of Long Beach leading numerous large, complex public-private development projects from transaction negotiations through design and construction.

Ruth received a Bachelor of Arts from the University of California, Irvine. She has two adult children and lives in San Jose.



Catherine Stefani
Assemblymember – District 19, California State Assembly

Catherine Stefani proudly represents California's 19th Assembly District, encompassing the western neighborhoods of San Francisco and northern San Mateo County. With decades of experience as a prosecutor, policy analyst, and county supervisor, Stefani is a proven leader dedicated to creating safer, more affordable communities and ensuring government works for all Californians.

Stefani has worked tirelessly to address gun violence, domestic violence, and corruption. As a former prosecutor with the Contra Costa County District Attorney's Office, she fought to protect vulnerable victims. In her time as a San Francisco County Supervisor, Stefani focused on improving community policing, enhancing first responder readiness, and supporting families. She championed affordable housing initiatives, fought for humane solutions to homelessness, and prioritized investments in education and public safety. She fought to protect vulnerable victims and authored Proposition D to establish local advocacy services for survivors of domestic violence and other crimes.

Stefani grew up in Merced, California, where she developed a deep appreciation for the challenges facing working families. She earned her law degree from McGeorge School of Law. Stefani now lives in San Francisco with her two children and her husband.



Dana Stoehr
Chief Executive Officer, San Mateo County Event Center

Dana Stoehr joined the San Mateo County Event Center in 2006 as Assistant General Manager, later returning in 2015 after successfully overseeing operations at a prominent East Bay event venue. Since 2017, Stoehr has served as CEO of the Event Center, where she has spearheaded strategic initiatives focused on operational excellence, fiscal growth, and community impact. Under her leadership, the venue has evolved into a resilient, successful revenue-generating asset for San Mateo County, while continuing to serve as a hub for cultural engagement and local enrichment.

Stoehr is an active civic and industry leader, currently serving on the California Authority of Racing Fairs, and the San Mateo Police Activities League. She is also President of the California Emergency Resiliency and Response Venues and Fairgrounds organization.

A long-time resident of the City of San Mateo, Stoehr and her team have received numerous accolades for programs such as the Domini Hoskins Black History Museum and Learning Center, Farm Worker Hero Appreciation Day, and a wide array of youth and community engagement initiatives hosted during the annual County Fair.

Progress Seminar Presenters



Shireen Malekafzali Taidi
Chief Equity Officer, County of San Mateo

Shireen Malekafzali Taidi is a leader in advancing just and fair inclusion into economic, civic, and social opportunities, with over 25 years of experience working across sectors and policy arenas. She currently serves as the inaugural Chief Equity Officer for the County of San Mateo in the Executive's Office. In this role, she has established County infrastructure to operationalize equity and leads the development of the new County Office of Labor Standards and Enforcement. Previously, she worked as the Senior Manager for Policy, Planning and Equity in County Health, and associate director at PolicyLink, a national economic and racial justice organization.

Across her roles, she brings a community- and data-driven perspective, rooted in values of collaboration, justice, and emergent strategies. She facilitates numerous multi-sector collaborative efforts and participates in regional, statewide, and national advisory groups.



Nicole Taylor
President and CEO, Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Nicole Taylor is president and CEO of Silicon Valley Community Foundation (SVCF). SVCF is the world's largest community foundation, with an average of \$2 billion in annual grantmaking and a deep commitment to solving its region's toughest challenges through advocacy, research, policy and grantmaking.

Since joining in 2018, Nicole has led the organization to renew its focus on challenges facing Silicon Valley's residents. She has championed efforts to increase local giving from SVCF donors and to help them be effective philanthropists. Prior to SVCF, Nicole served in executive roles at Arizona State University, Stanford University, College Track, Thrive Foundation for Youth and East Bay Community Foundation.

She served on the board of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco and is currently a board member for Common Sense Media, Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, and Top Hat. Nicole received both her M.A. and A.B. from Stanford University and began her career as an educator.



Jennifer Torai
Senior Director of Local Government Affairs, Stanford Health Care

Jennifer Torai handles Stanford Health Care's government affairs initiatives primarily at the local government level and manages relationships in counties and municipalities in which SHC operates.

Prior to this role, she worked with various Bay Area community-based organizations. Jenn is a former member of the Bay Area Regional Advisory Committee for the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, has been an adjunct professor for San Jose State University's School of Social Work, is a former Co-Chair of the Asian/Pacific Islander Social Work Council of Northern California, and a former Co-President of the Urban Planning Coalition at San Jose State University.

Jenn is a co-founder and active member of Asian Women Empowered - a community group that fosters civic engagement and leadership in Silicon Valley. Jenn holds a BS degree in Psychology from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and holds a Master's in both Urban and Regional Planning and Social Work from San Jose State University.



Tania Treis
Principal, Panorama Environmental

Tania Treis is the founder and President of Panorama, an environmental planning and consulting firm based in San Francisco, providing services on a wide range of projects across the Bay Area, California, and the western US. Tania's expertise spans nearly 25 years and includes leading program and project definition, alternatives analysis, policy analysis, and environmental reviews for energy, water, and natural resource and climate resiliency-focused projects. Tania and her company have worked with many different public and private clients across the San Francisco Bay Area, including in San Mateo County. She has been providing services in wildfire planning and analysis since 2012. Notably, she led the preparation of large-scale wildfire planning efforts for Stanford University, the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, and the San Mateo Resource Conservation District.

About the Chamber

Our Purpose

We support businesses and everyone they serve to build a brighter future for San Mateo County.

Our Promise

We are the forum where business voices are heard, engaged, supported, and elevated.

Our Difference

The Chamber uses effective engagement, diverse perspectives, and strong leadership to be a collaborative force in San Mateo County.

Our Priorities

- Serving and supporting members
- Understanding and shaping political environment
- Developing and using our regional influence
- Advocacy efforts for priority issues

We Proudly Represent:



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Our Policy Committees



Our Collaborating Partners



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Chamber Team

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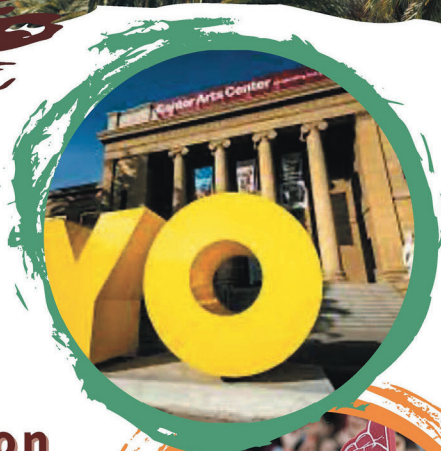
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