

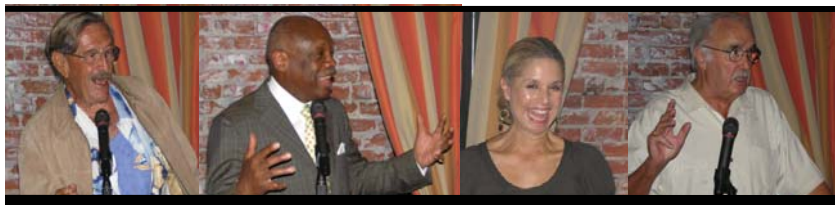
WEEKLY FLASH

Council "Sacramento Day" Strengthens Relationships

The mood was joyous, if exhausted, in Sacramento this past Tuesday as the state gained a new budget, and more than 60 Council members met with the key players in the state capital to build relationships and push our issues. We met with the Assembly Speaker Nunez; Assembly Republican Leader Villines; the chairs of the Appropriations Committees; the chairs of the Water, Transportation and Housing Committees; as well as with Gov. Schwarzenegger's Chief of Staff, Susan Kennedy, and First Lady Maria Shriver's Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor to Governor on Healthcare, Daniel Zingale. After a day of meetings, the Council members retired to a reception with many members of the current Bay Area delegation to honor past legislative leaders from our region, including the Honorable: Willie Brown; John Burton; Liz Figueroa; Elihu Harris; Dan Hauser; Johan Klehs; State Treasurer Bill Lockyer; Kevin Shelley; and John Vasconcellos (flying in from Hawaii, no less!).

With days like this, the Bay Area Council's growing relevance and impact on the issues that matter in Sacramento is readily apparent.

P.S. On the same day, the state Senate concurred on \$250 million in funding for a [Bay Area Council-sponsored emergency water transit system](#).



Articles of the Week

This [Sunday Contra Costa Times article](#) covers work driven by the Bay Area Council to get to an endgame in the Delta water negotiations, led by our Water Committee Chair, Jim Levine.

This [op ed in The Capitol Weekly](#), by Jim Levine and Jim Wunderman, (timed for greatest impact as legislators return for the end of the session) explains the Council water strategy.



Quote of the Week

"If I have to crawl around on all fours throughout the Capitol, it makes no difference to me, I just want to get it done." – Gov. Schwarzenegger [in the SF Chronicle](#) on GOP support for healthcare reform.

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