

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, July 18, 2025

Gloria Administration Announces New Appointments to City of San Diego's Boards and Commissions

FIVE APPOINTEES CONFIRMED ACROSS THREE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

SAN DIEGO – Following City Council approval, Mayor Todd Gloria recently announced these new appointments and reappointments to serve in key roles on the City of San Diego's Boards and Commissions. Check the [Boards and Commissions webpage](#) to learn about vacancies and apply for a position.

Vanessa Ybarra Davis was appointed to the Commission for Arts and Culture. Davis is the Vice President of Broadway San Diego. She has spent over 25 years contributing to the arts scene in our city, bringing acclaimed Broadway productions such as "Hamilton" and Disney's "The Lion King" to local audiences. She serves on the San Diego County Credit Union Board of Directors and co-leads the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee for Nederlander, the parent company of Broadway San Diego. Davis is an active member of MANA, where she mentors young Latinas in education and leadership, and has been involved with Executive Women International for over a decade. She is being appointed to a two-year term ending Aug. 31, 2026, in the Mayoral Appointee Seat.

Jean Walcher was appointed to the Commission for Arts and Culture. Walcher is the president of J. Walcher Communications. She has over 30 years of experience in communications and marketing and extensive experience on both the agency and client sides, including being Vice President of Marketing and Public Relations (PR) for the American Council on Exercise. Before founding J. Walcher Communications in 2001, she worked at PR firms in San Diego and New York and in TV and film production in Los Angeles. She is now involved with marketing committees for the Institute of Contemporary Art and Sharp Healthcare. Walcher is being appointed to a two-year term ending Aug. 31, 2026, in the Mayoral Appointee Seat.

Robert Terrell Rackley was appointed to the Community Forest Advisory Board. Rackley is a horticulture professional, business owner and nonprofit leader with over 25 years of experience in the nursery and landscape industry. He currently serves as the Regional Merchandise Manager for Everde Growers,

where he oversees plant merchandising and urban greening initiatives across Southern California. He began working in the floral business in 1992 and opened his own retail operation, Rackley's Flowers and Gifts, in 2000. In 2014, he co-founded Hip Hop Health and Wellness, a nonprofit that officially became a 501(c)(3) in 2019. The organization delivers culturally responsive wellness and environmental programming to underserved communities, youth and families. Rackley is being appointed to a three-year term ending Dec. 31, 2025, in the District 9 Representative Seat.

Michelle Bush was reappointed to the San Diego City Employees Retirement System Board. Bush has been the Chief Administrative Officer for the San Diego County District Attorney's Office for the past 10 years. Her 20+ years of experience in finance, operations and strategic planning give her a broad base of experience to direct innovative initiatives in all areas of an organization. She began her career in the private sector working for one of the largest international auditing, tax, and consulting firms, KPMG Peat Marwick. A graduate of San Diego State University's School of Business, Bush received a bachelor's degree in accounting and is a certified public accountant in the State of California. She is being reappointed to a four-year term ending March 31, 2029, in the Professional/Experienced Member Seat.

Lisa Marie Harris was reappointed to the San Diego City Employees Retirement System Board. Harris has served as Director of Finance/Treasurer for the San Diego County Water Authority since May 2014, with over 30 years of financial experience in both the public and private sectors. Harris is responsible for overseeing the Water Authority's \$2.1 billion debt portfolio, the \$410 million investment portfolio and is responsible for the development of the biannual \$1.7 billion operating budget and the setting of annual Rates and Charges. Prior to joining the Water Authority, Harris served as Chief Deputy Treasurer for the County of San Diego Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office, Executive Director of the California Debt and Investment Advisory Commission, Assistant Deputy Airport Director for the City and County of San Francisco - San Francisco International Airport and -- most recently -- Senior Vice President for Siebert Brandford Shank LLC. Harris holds a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of California, Berkeley and a master's degree in public policy from the University of Michigan. She is being reappointed to a four-year term ending March 31, 2029, in the Professional/Experienced Member Seat.



###