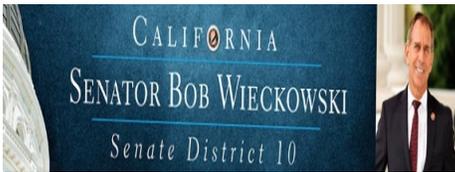


Winds of Change Regional Government February 3, 2018 Laney College, Oakland Speaker Biographies



Senator Bob Wieckowski

Senator Wieckowski represents the 10th Senate District in the California State Legislature. The district stretches from southern Alameda County into Santa Clara County and shares the member's focus on job creation, clean technologies, protecting our environment and reducing unnecessary regulations. Mr. Wieckowski chairs the Environmental Quality Committee and Budget Subcommittee 2 on Resources, Environmental Protection, Energy and Transportation. He is also a member of the Senate committees on Judiciary; Budget and Fiscal Review; Transportation and Housing; Labor and Industrial Relations, and Ethics. He was appointed by the Senate President Pro Tem to serve on the Energy and Environment Committee of the Council of State Governments West and in 2017 became the first Californian to chair the committee. The Senator is a state leader in advocating for climate adaptation programs and has participated on regional, state and international panels examining green infrastructure investments.

A strong voice in the Legislature for consumers and low-income earners, he received the "Champion of Justice" Award from the East Bay Community Law Center for fighting against abusive debt collectors and oppressive wage garnishments. Statewide organizations have selected him Legislator of the Year and the California Judges Association gave him its "Scales of Justice Award" for his steadfast support for increased court funding. Tech America also named him "Legislator of the Year."

Mr. Wieckowski is a small business owner and a bankruptcy attorney. He has helped hundreds of families and seniors persevere through economic hardship, keep their homes and live with dignity. He received his B.A. from the University of California and his J.D. from Santa Clara University School of Law. Senator Wieckowski lives in Fremont with his wife, Sue.



Councilmember Julie Pierce, City of Clayton, ABAG and MTC

Julie is Immediate Past President of the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) Executive Committee. She is the ABAG delegate to MTC, appointed December 2014. She is a Council Member in the City of Clayton and serves on the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA). Julie is a past president of the California Council of Governments (CALCOG) where she serves as the CCTA delegate. She has been working on transportation, land use and growth management policy issues for over 30 years, beginning in 1987, when she was appointed to TRANSPAC, the Central Contra Costa Regional Transportation Planning Committee.

She has served on the Clayton City Council and the CCTA since 1992, serving five times as mayor, and three times as chair of CCTA. Julie was recognized for her leadership by the Contra Costa Council in 1995 for the adoption of Contra Costa's very first Countywide Comprehensive Transportation Plan, and was honored by the San Francisco Chapter of the Women's Transportation Seminar with their 1998 Woman of the Year award. Julie served as chair of Contra Costa's Shaping Our Future Policy Committee, which brought elected officials and stakeholders from the cities and county together to develop a plan to strengthen the linkages between housing needs, jobs and transportation infrastructure. This effort led to the Urban Limit Line consensus included as a basic tenet in the renewal of Contra Costa's 2004 Growth Management policy in Measure J. Julie also represents the Contra Costa cities on ABAG's Regional Planning Committee and on the ABAG Executive Committee, where she was instrumental in the negotiation of the Plan Bay Area Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). Julie has been recognized locally, regionally and inter-regionally for her leadership, ability to build consensus from divergent views and for promoting a county and regionwide approach to transportation planning, land use and growth management.



**Egon Terplan, Regional Planning Director
SPUR**

Egon Terplan is SPUR's regional planning director. He is a specialist in economic development, land use, transportation, government reform and regional policy. He has authored or co-authored dozens of reports and policy studies, including the first-ever report on the Northern California megaregion, a report on land use planning and high speed rail, a strategy for improving economic opportunity and upward mobility in the Bay Area, and strategies for the future of downtown Oakland, San Jose and San Francisco. Egon is a frequent speaker and lecturer and also teaches in the Urban Affairs graduate program at the University of San Francisco.

Prior to joining SPUR, Egon spent more than five years with ICF International advising cities and regions throughout the world on economic development and competitiveness. His work included managing and writing collaborative regional strategies throughout California and in Alberta, British Columbia, Connecticut, Louisiana, Ohio, Ontario and South Carolina. His international work included designing and implementing competitiveness programs in Argentina, Bosnia & Herzegovina, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Nigeria. Prior to ICF, Egon worked with several labor unions, including SEIU and UNITE. He was also a NYC Urban Fellow working on economic development for Mayor Giuliani in New York City and a public school teacher on Rikers Island, Queens. Egon earned a Master's degree in city and regional planning from UC Berkeley's College of Environmental Design. He received a Bachelor's degree, Phi Beta Kappa, from Swarthmore College, where he wrote a thesis comparing street vendor political organizing in Bogotá, Colombia, and New York City.



**Matt Vander Sluis, Deputy Director,
Greenbelt Alliance**

Matt Vander Sluis guides Greenbelt Alliance's campaigns and projects that protect the Bay Area's natural and agricultural landscapes and create thriving neighborhoods with homes affordable to all.

Prior to joining Greenbelt Alliance in 2010, Matt managed the climate policy program for the Planning and Conservation League, a statewide environmental nonprofit in Sacramento, where he shaped state policies to shorten commutes through better land use planning. His work has been covered by a variety of media outlets, including the Atlantic Monthly, the [San Francisco Chronicle](#), Los Angeles Times, and [KQED's QUEST](#). In 2017, he was named one of the [East Bay's 40 under 40](#) by Diablo Magazine. Matt graduated from Stanford University in American Studies in 2003. He enjoys the abundance of live music venues in the Bay Area and has a hankering for experimental video art.



**Allison Brooks, Executive Director,
Bay Area Regional Collaborative (BARC)**

Allison is Executive Director of Bay Area Regional Collaborative (BARC), helping to coordinate regional planning efforts of the Bay Area's four regional agencies with a primary focus on aligning climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts. The agencies include the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG), the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD), and the Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC). Prior to joining BARC, Allison led the national organization Reconnecting America, where she developed data-driven and interdisciplinary solutions to better integrate transportation and land use to meet broader climate, social equity and economic goals in metro areas across the United States, and across federal agencies. Allison has a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of California, San Diego and a Masters in Sustainable International Development from the Heller Graduate School of Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University. She was also a Peace Corps Volunteer in Ghana, West Africa.



**Matt Regan, Senior Vice President of Public Policy
Bay Area Council**

Matt Regan is Senior Vice President of Public Policy whose responsibilities include promoting the Bay Area Council's legislative and political agendas at the local, state and federal levels. Matt has lead responsibility for the Council's federal, state and local government relations work and oversees a four-person team focused on 21st century energy and communications infrastructure and water policy. Matt has over 15 years experience working in the political arena and prior to joining the Bay Area Council Matt worked as a contract lobbyist, an in house Government Affairs specialist for a large bank, a State Assembly legislative aide and a field organizer for several high profile elections across the Bay Area. Matt is a native of Ireland. He attended the Middlesex University School of Law in London where he earned his LLB and the University of Ulster School of Business where he graduated with a Post Graduate Degree in Marketing.



**Derecka Mehrens Executive Director
Working Partnerships USA**

Derecka Mehrens, Executive Director at Working Partnerships USA, brings fifteen years of community organizing, civic engagement, and public policy experience working in communities of color and with low and moderate-income families. Under Derecka's leadership, Working Partnerships USA co-founded Silicon Valley Rising, a coordinated regional campaign to inspire a tech-driven economy where all workers, their families and communities thrive. The unprecedented labor-faith-community alliance is working to build a new economic model that rebuilds the middle class, to raise wages and workplace standards for all workers in this valley, and to address a regional housing crisis that is pushing families and children to live in garages, cars, or near creek beds in order to survive. Silicon Valley Rising members have moved Apple, Google, and a half dozen other companies to increase standards and support contract worker organizing and policy campaigns to increase funding for affordable housing and protections for renters are moving across the Valley.

Derecka also led Working Partnerships USA to launch a strategic plan for 2015-2018 including: improving the wages, benefits, and working conditions of 100,000 low-wage workers through industry and sector-based policy and organizing campaigns; developing cutting-edge health prevention programs aimed at eliminating growing health disparities based on race and income; and advancing progressive tax and fiscal policies through engaging our base of 60,000 infrequent voters in a new model of community-driven governance that connects mass-based civic engagement, deep grassroots organizing, and values-based leadership.

As Working Partnerships USA's organizing director from 2008 to 2013, she was instrumental in developing organizing and campaign strategies to win policies improving the lives of workers and their families, including the 2012 minimum wage increase in the City of San Jose. She led the organization's non-partisan civic engagement programs building an organized base of more than 40,000 low-income communities of color in Silicon Valley, registering more than 14,000 voters and working to increase civic participation rates of voters of color and low-income voters in Santa Clara County. Mehrens is the daughter of a union construction worker and a union community college teacher and is married with two young children. She graduated from the University of Oregon with a bachelor's degree in Sociology, History and International Studies.



**Pedro Galvao, Regional Planning and Policy Manager
Nonprofit Housing of Northern California**

Pedro leads NPH's regional work, building coalitions across the Bay Area and conducting innovative policy research to make the Bay Area a more affordable place to live. He has successfully championed the incorporation of an affordable housing-focused Action Plan for the region's 40-year strategic Plan Bay Area and authored "On Track Together," NPH's plan for linking transportation and affordable housing investments.

Before joining NPH, Pedro worked with the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) on Plan Bay Area, documenting the region's housing issues and trends, and creating technical resources for local government. Prior to that, he worked as a policy advisor for two San Francisco Supervisors and founded El Proyecto Voz Latina, a grassroots organization focused on Latino voting and representation. Pedro holds a B.A. in Politics from Whitman College and a Master's in Public Policy from Harvard University.



**Leslye Corsiglia, Co-Chair
CASA-Committee to House the Bay Area, SV@Home**

Leslye Corsiglia began her professional career at the California Department of Housing and Community Development, where she held several positions before taking on the challenge of overseeing the day-to-day activities of the state's housing loan and grant programs. In that capacity, she worked to pass and then implement the first affordable housing bond initiatives, which made \$550 million available for the construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing throughout the state.

Ms. Corsiglia joined the City of San Jose as the Department of Housing's first Assistant Director in 1991, and then served for 14 years as the Director. While with the City, she oversaw a program that developed and improved 21,000 affordable housing units, leveraging the City's funds with more than \$2.7 billion from public and private sources. She has served on a number of federal, state, and regional boards and currently serves on the Board of the Non-Profit Housing Association of Northern California.

She is a dedicated housing wonk, loves policy and research, and is excited to take on the challenge of leading the new start-up venture known as SV@Home. SV@Home is the voice for affordable housing in Silicon Valley. Based initially in the Housing Trust Silicon Valley, SV@Home is a membership organization that advocates for policies, programs, land use, and funding that lead to an increased supply of affordable housing. Additionally, SV@Home educates elected officials and the community about the need for housing and the link between housing and other quality of life outcomes, including education, health, transportation, and the environment.



**Ken Kirkey, Planning Director
Metropolitan Transportation Commission**

Ken Kirkey is the Planning Director for the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), assuming this position in July 2012. As Planning Director, he is the agency's lead staff for the development of Plan Bay Area, the region's Sustainable Communities Strategy and Regional Transportation Plan. Mr. Kirkey also oversees MTC's Planning Section, which guides planning and implementation projects related to a broad range of issue areas and programs.

Prior to joining MTC, Mr. Kirkey was the Planning and Research Director with the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) where he directed a variety of programs. These included the consensus-based process for developing the Bay Area's regional blueprint plan (known as the FOCUS Program) for over 150 Priority Development Areas and more than 100 Priority Conservation Areas, and the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) process.

Mr. Kirkey has more than 20 years of experience related to regional land use and transportation planning. Prior to joining ABAG he worked in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors on regional growth management policy, general plans, specific plans, and development agreements in the San Francisco Bay Area and New England. On July 1, 2017, Mr. Kirkey began a new role as Planning Director of the Integrated Regional Planning Program, a consolidation of the MTC and ABAG Planning Departments intended to better serve the region. Mr. Kirkey is Project Manager of CASA, the first major new initiative associated with the integrated program.



**Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson, President
Laney College**

One of seven children, Dr. Tammeil Y. Gilkerson grew up in Hayward where her parents still live. "My siblings and I truly reflect the diversity of the Bay Area – African American, Latino, white and Asian – and from a young age this instilled in me a deep respect and appreciation for diversity, but also a direct view of the social and institutional inequities that plague our society and directly impact the lives of our students,"

Dr. Gilkerson said during her presentation at the Laney President Candidate Forum on Jan. 30. Dr. Gilkerson was the first in her family to attend college – obtaining a bachelor's degree in history from the University of California, Berkeley. She went on to pursue a master's degree in counseling. In September 2017, Dr. Gilkerson obtained her doctoral degree in educational leadership.

Dr. Gilkerson began her community college career as a faculty member in psychology-counseling at Chabot College. She went on to be the Dean of Counseling and Matriculation at Evergreen Valley College, overseeing all of the counseling, transfer services and key categorical programs, including Disabled Students Programs and Services, EOPS/CARE & CalWorks, and the foster kinship care program. Dr. Gilkerson also served at San Jose City College as Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs where she championed the college's accreditation issues. In addition to her work in community colleges, she served as the Academy and Education Policy Director at The Greenlining Institute and in positions at UC Berkeley in the Office of Student Life and the Early Academic Outreach Program. Dr. Gilkerson served as Contra Costa College's Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs before joining Laney in April 2017.