

### LOS ANGELES – JULY 16, 2018

“I see California as just one large district,” said Senate pro Tem Toni Atkins (SD39) at BizFed’s twelfth Leadership Roundtable hosted by Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) at their new downtown Los Angeles offices. In her opening remarks, pro Tem Atkins shared that she felt very comfortable being there. She was a former Councilmember on the San Diego City Council and active in various committees of San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG). These experiences, she stated, have helped her better understand the issues that affect people locally and statewide, from a policy perspective in her approach to leadership and governance.



SCAG President, Ontario Mayor Pro Tempore Alan Wapner welcomed the Roundtable guests and pro Tem Atkins to SCAG and remarked how cities and counties are pleased that she has local government experience. Mayor Pro Tem Wapner urged her support and partnership with SCAG on the RTP/SCE (Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Community Strategy) adherence and conformity.

“Infrastructure is very important to the state of California”, she stated. Stormwater, health care, energy, transportation and some of these. She discussed that SB2 (Atkins), Building Homes and Jobs Act of 2017, will deliver over \$1 billion of funding for affordable housing (a signature issue for her) this year. Approximately \$500 million to homeless housing, \$500 million through Cap & Trade in various grants and \$250 million that are set aside for planning.

An emphasis on defeating Proposition 6, which would repeal SB1 (Beall, 2017) transportation funding via the state’s gas tax. California would lose vital funding, approximately \$5.2 billion, to maintain streets, roads, highways. Suggestions to use the budget surplus to finance these repairs is not feasible. The surplus is the state’s rainy day fund to use during downturn in the economy (remember 2009?). Communication is key to everything. Talking to each other to get away from the politics that prevent quality investments in our communities and neighborhoods.





## 2018 BizFed Leadership Roundtable Series Senate President pro Tempore Toni Atkins

The Legislature worked hard to find compromises on the Costa Hawkins, rent control issue. With Proposition 10 on the ballot, now there is no conversation on the issue but instead, there is a campaign. Pro Tem Atkins is opposed to Proposition 10 as she believes that rent control is not the solution to our housing crisis as it creates more scarcity in the housing supply. She thanked Senator Scott Wiener for introducing SB827 to start the conversation on increasing the housing supply.



Jennifer Hernandez highlighted BizFed's CEQA Committee's principles to reduce CEQA lawsuits abuses that affect housing production and housing affordability. Pro Tem Atkins responded for the need to communicate amongst neighbors and project proponents. She reflected back to a mixed use development in a San Diego neighborhood that was cancelled due to CEQA lawsuits that significantly delayed and altered the project. It became no longer profitable nor provided the community the benefits that were originally proposed.

Pro Tem Atkins also expressed concerns and frustrations with the "Gut and Amend" process as it related to AB1000 (Friedman) and the Cadiz Water Project. This process circumvents the normal process which includes the dialogue needed to improve the legislation and undermines the accountability with the voters and communities.



Participants attending the Roundtable: Joe Ahn, Zanku Armenian, Steve Bullock, Javiera Cartagena, Darin Chidsey, Ted Cordova, Robert Duarte, David Fleming, Christine Frey, Diane Griffiths, John Hake, Jennifer Hernandez, Tracy Hernandez, Lara Larramendi, Sara Mitchell, Melissa Patack, Steve Samuelian, Melvin Sanchez, Sandy Sanchez, Michelle Schwartz, Liz Shapiro, Scott Slater, Alan Wapner, Jerard Wright Art Yoon, and Ellen Zaman.

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