



Adaptable & Accountable



Dear Friends,

If the current public health crisis has taught us anything, it's that we need to be adaptable to meet the needs of our communities. On Tuesday, I opposed a motion proposing a charter amendment to the County's budget that would go on the November ballot. This effort permanently ties the County's hands on any financial decisions for future generations, regardless of pressing fiscal and policy issues that may arise. The County already allocates millions of dollars each year to the very health and social service programs this effort seeks to fund. The proposed charter amendment would nullify any meaningful dialogue or policy deliberations for years to come and would prevent these policies from being

This initiative was brought before the Board in a rush without any insight or feedback from experts or from the constituents we are elected to serve. Through careful planning, the Board of Supervisors has set aside funding for public services where and when they are most needed, even in the face of the greatest public health crisis of our time. L.A. County should not have to choose between public safety and social services. We must have both to ensure the protection and prosperity of our community. If you'd like to lend your voice to this discussion, I invite you to [speak at an upcoming Board of Supervisors meeting](#) to express your concerns. I am always committed to listening to my constituents, who all deserve to be heard to ensure transparency. Maintaining the flexibility to grow and shift with the ever-changing needs of this County is crucial to achieve this goal.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathryn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'K' and a long, sweeping tail.

Kathryn Barger

Supervisor, Fifth District

Chair, Board of Supervisors

Prepare for School



School closures deeply impacted families and exacerbated the digital divide in our communities. We must support students who are distance learning this fall, with added consideration for those who are low-income, English learners, experiencing homelessness, foster youth, or special needs. At our Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, we voted to send a letter to Governor Newsom and Superintendent Thurmond to provide resources that ensure a positive distance learning experience for all students. These needs include consistent and equitable educational requirements; access to computer equipment, tablets, and Wi-Fi; community resource centers for children and youth who need a safe place to learn; plans for students whose distance learning can be compromised; and resources to keep childcare centers operating.

[Learn about this effort.](#)

Board of Directors



I'm grateful to share that at the National Association of Counties' meeting on Monday, President Gary Moore appointed me as one of 10 at-large members of the Board of Directors. I've been an active member of NACo since 2017 and also serve as Vice Chair of their Large Urban County Caucus Steering Committee. I'm honored to be in this position and am thankful for the partnership of leaders from diverse counties across our country.

[Watch the meeting and connect with NACo.](#)

Rebuild & Renew



The San Gabriel Mission has a storied history and continues to foster unity for residents in Los Angeles County. I stopped by on Thursday to speak with Terri Huerta, the Mission's director of development. While we grieve the damage of the recent fire, Terri said she knows the Mission will emerge stronger and more beautiful.

[Support the restoration.](#)

Talking Transit

SGVCOG PRESENTS:

Transportation & Mobility Twitterchat

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2020 AT 12:00 PM

JOIN THE SGVCOG AND OTHER AGENCIES TO DISCUSS
THE IMPORTANCE OF FIRST/LAST MILE CONNECTIONS.

FOLLOW THE CONVERSATIONS AT #CONNECTINGSGV

Interested in learning more about accessible transportation in our communities? Follow along with the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments' Twitter chat by checking #ConnectingSGV on Wednesday at noon. I'll be participating alongside local transit experts.

[Tune into the Twitter chat.](#)

Food for the Valley



Lots of food resources are available for families across the Fifth District. I'm happy to share about a drive-thru food distribution hosted by the L.A. Regional Food Bank, my office, and the office of Councilmember Monica Rodriguez at All Nations Church in Lake View Terrace on Thursday, July 30 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. You can pick up food, volunteer, or find another event close to you.

[Find food or a volunteer opportunity.](#)

Careers for Youth



I'm excited to share the incredible cohort of GOOD+LIFE students have successfully completed their manufacturing training program. This innovative effort is tailor made for transitional age youth who are either experiencing or at risk of homelessness. It enables them to gain valuable job skills, training, and paid work experience in the industrial arts that paves the way for them to become gainfully employed and access supportive services. GOOD+LIFE is a collaboration between Lost Angels Children's Project, the Los Angeles County Office of Education, the City of Lancaster, the L.A. County Department of Public Social Services, and the Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative.

[Become a sponsor or donate to this inspiring program.](#)

Oath of Office



Congratulations to Fran Sereseres, who our office just appointed to the Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults. My Antelope Valley Field Deputy Donna Termeer met her outside the local senior center to administer her oath of office and wish her well in this role.

[See how you can serve on a commission.](#)

Get Counted



Have you completed the 2020 census?

[Yes!](#)

[Not yet.](#)

[No, and I don't plan to.](#)

Did you know the census results in 10 years of funding for hospitals, schools, meal programs, and more? During the last census, there was a drastic under count and L.A. County lost out on millions of dollars for our neighborhoods. Filling out the census will take less than 10 minutes to complete and it is safe, secure, and confidential. Get counted today!

[Help your community count.](#)

Fun for Families



2020 Summer
FUN
at LA County Parks

MAKE A SPLASH AT YOUR LOCAL PARK
with COVID-19 guidelines to keep you and your family safe.

- Splash Pads
- Family Fishing & Camping
- Lake Swim Beaches
- Trails & Natural Areas
- Our SPOT
- Summer Day Camps
- Drive-In at the Park
- PAD In Motion
- Virtual Recreation Center
- Free Summer Lunch

Find a park near you at parks.lacounty.gov/summer

#LACountyParks
#MakeASplash

Parks Make Life Better!

Illustrations include a beach ball, a sun, sunflowers, a watermelon slice, and an ice cream cone.

The summertime schedule for Parks and Recreation is completely safe and 100% fun. There are opportunities for [fishing and camping at local lakes](#), [kicking back at drive-in movies under the stars](#), [strolling through your neighborhood during Parks After Dark](#), and cooling off on [splash pads and swim beaches](#).

[Check out some summer fun near you.](#)





Downtown:

500 W. Temple St. #869
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 974-5555

Antelope Valley:

42455 10th Street West, Suite 104
Lancaster, CA 93534
(661) 726-3600

East San Gabriel Valley:

615 E. Foothill Bl. Suite A
San Dimas, CA 91773
(909) 394-2264

Santa Clarita Valley:

27441 Tourney Rd. Suite 180
Santa Clarita, CA 91355
(661) 287-3657

San Gabriel Valley:

215 N. Marengo Ave. Suite 120
Pasadena, CA 91101
(626) 356-5407

San Fernando Valley:

21943 Plummer St.
Chatsworth, CA 91311
(818) 993-5170

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