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WELCOMING COMMENTS FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT STUART WELLS

Greetings. My name is Stuart Wells, and I work for the Sempra Energy Utilities (San Diego Gas & Electric and Southern California Gas Company). I am honored to have been elected as the 2008 President of the CSAC Corporate Associates program.

Over the past year, with several staff changes, and the development of a "brand" for CSAC Corporate Associates, there has been much transition for our program. All of our corporate partners owe a debt of gratitude to our Immediate Past Chairman, Mike Silacci of AT&T, for keeping a steady hand on the tiller as we navigated through the many changes we have seen. I feel very fortunate to have been handed "the keys" with things in such good order, and I feel that we are primed to make great strides this year.

As Corporate Associates, we recognize that when counties enjoy economic growth and prosperity, it is good for our companies. More importantly, however, we recognize that economic growth and prosperity in our counties makes for better, safer, and more livable communities. I look forward to working toward furthering the goals of CSAC during 2008, and to working with Rich Gordon, Paul McIntosh, the rest of the CSAC leadership and staff, as well as all of you, to continue to make CSAC the most effective organization possible working on behalf of California's counties.

CLOSING STATEMENT FROM FORMER PRESIDENT MIKE SILACCI

Greetings Fellow Corporate Associates,

I trust that the beginning of this New Year has been good for you, your families, and your businesses.

This marks my farewell message to you as your Corporate Associates President. It has been my honor to serve you in that capacity and lead our association, which is a valuable partnership with CSAC, California's preeminent association on behalf of our state's county governments.

Please join me in congratulating Stuart Wells, of Sempra Energy, our new President of Corporate Associates, who was elected to that position by your Corporate Associates Steering Committee at our annual planning meeting last month. Stuart has been actively involved in our association for many years and will serve us well.

At last month's planning session, the Steering Committee along with the CSAC leadership, reviewed the results of the many program improvements we instituted in the last year. You'll be pleased to learn we had much success including the implementation of a Corporate Associates brand identity and dedicated Corporate Associates section on the CSAC website to improve communications, simplifying and streamlining the membership and sponsorship opportunities, more closely tying our association to CSAC affiliated associations like the County Administrator's Association, and improving the partnership on CSAC policy and strategic priorities.

We also mutually decided the strategic priorities for 2008, including continuous improvement areas that will allow us to deliver value to our members and to CSAC.

I want to thank the CSAC leadership: Executive Director Paul McIntosh, CSAC Officers - President Rich Gordon, 1st V.P. Gary Wyatt, 2nd V.P. Michael Delbar, and Past-Presidents Frank Bigelow and Connie Conway, and the CSAC Board of Directors, for their continued pragmatic spirit and openness to improve our partnership. We owe a debt of gratitude to Tom Sweet, CSAC Finance Corporation Executive Director and Brent Wallace, Executive Director CAOAC, for their day-to-day stewardship of our program. And my personal appreciation for the excellent service of our fellow members who have dedicated their time and talent as part of our Steering Committee.

Finally, thank you for your continued commitment to our association and the many valuable benefits to your businesses through active participation in this one-of-a-kind partnership.

Mike Silacci

2007 President CSAC Corporate Associates
AT&T

CORPORATE ASSOCIATES STEERING COMMITTEE RETREAT – JANUARY 23-25, 2008

The Corporate Associates Steering Committee met in San Diego County, California, January 23-25. By all accounts, the meeting was a smashing success.

One of the strongest points I wanted to make at the beginning of the meeting, which I have stated in this newsletter before, is the importance of the Corporate Associates Program to CSAC and my recognition that it needs to be equally important to you; our corporate partners. We know and appreciate the value-added that your association with CSAC brings to us, but the program is only successful if there is equal value-added to you.

CSAC is in the process of developing a continuing education program that will provide training and education to our supervisors, county administrators and department directors to keep them abreast of the latest trends and developments in programs and issues facing California's counties. The Corporate Associates Steering Committee highly supported this concept and there was great discussion on how the Corporate Associates program could be used to support and supplement the continuing education program. As we develop this concept further, look for more information and ideas on how you can participate in this program in this newsletter.

Although the Corporate Associates program recently went through a branding exercise and modeled program materials from that exercise, I suggested to the Steering Committee that we change the name of the program to "Corporate Partners". In my opinion, this more genuinely reflects that relationship I want to build with you. There was very positive feedback from the members of the steering committee and we will begin discussing a logical transition to that name.

All in all a great meeting. There are other outcomes of the meeting that will be reported in this newsletter as we move forward. Just the resurgence of the newsletter is one such outcome.

Paul McIntosh

CSAC Executive Director

AN UPDATE FROM TOM SWEET – CSAC FINANCE CORPORATION

My position is Executive Director of the CSAC Finance Corporation. I have been associated with the corporate members of CSAC since the early '80s and also headed up the National Assoc. of Counties (NACo) corporate

program for many years. We should have a new Corporate Associates Manager on board soon. While that person will work with my oversight, that individual will be first and foremost the link to CSAC's corporate program, not the Finance Corporation. For those of you that attended the recent Corporate Associates retreat, I am sure you will agree that under Paul McIntosh's leadership and support from all CSAC officers, the Corporate Associates program will receive tremendous support in developing mutual collaboration.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA (CAOAC)

There continues to be changes among the ranks of County Administrators and Executives throughout the state. **John Cullen, CAO in Contra Costa County** has announced that he will retire in September 2008 and **John Johnston, CEO of Ventura County**, will retire in March of 2008. The Ventura County Board of Supervisors has appointed **Marty Robinson**. Marty has been with the county for several years. She will assume her new duties in April. Contra Costa County is currently recruiting to replace John. Additionally, the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors has appointed **Robert (Bob) Lawton** and the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors has appointed **Brian McDermott**. Bob Lawton served as a Deputy CAO in Solano County with Brian McDermott moving from the Director of Public Works position to the CAO position in January. Finally, **Dee Tatum, CEO of Merced County** has announced that he will retire in December of this year.

The next General Membership meeting of CAOAC will be May 22, 2008 during the CSAC Legislative Conference in Sacramento. If any member of the Corporate Associates has a specific announcement regarding training programs or professional development opportunities available to CAO/CEO's or their Assistants that would occur after the Legislative Conference please contact Brent Wallace, Executive Director, CAOAC, via email at bwallace@counties.org or telephone (916) 322-2427. Many private sector firms try to integrate local government leaders into some of their training programs. Brent will assist all Corporate Members in providing information to all administrators about any opportunity that may be available.

'HOT TOPICS' AROUND THE CAPITOL

The 2008 legislative priorities adopted by the CSAC Board of Directors can be accessed at the following link: <http://www.csac.counties.org/default.asp?id=1147>

Please note that the legislative priorities for 2008 are undergoing revision and are likely to change throughout the budget process in California. The federal legislative priorities, found at the end of the draft, are alphabetized to make it parallel to the state. If you have any questions about CSAC legislative priorities or would like to discuss them, please contact Jim Wiltshire, CSAC Deputy Director, via email at jwiltshire@counties.org or telephone (916) 327-7500 Ext. 545.

CORPORATE ASSOCIATES URGED TO JOIN MEMBERS SECTION ON WEBSITE

If you haven't already signed up for the CSAC Members Section on our Web site, we encourage you to do so. The password-protected section includes forums on policy areas, as well as the latest information and news that you won't find anywhere else on the Web site. Signing up takes just a few minutes. Just click on the Members button on the Home Page at www.csac.counties.org to get started.

CSAC TO UNVEIL NEW COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES

CSAC will soon unveil two new methods to communicate with our members and corporate partners. Partnering with one of our corporate members, the NTI Group, CSAC will be utilizing the **Connect-CTY** service, which will provide CSAC officials the ability to send and track personalized voice messages to thousands of members and

staff in just minutes, through a single phone call. CSAC is looking to use this new technology to announce important policy announcements, meetings, issue updates and programs.

CSAC is also working to utilize video to share important messages with our members via our Web site. Look for more information on these new communication tools in the coming weeks.

DATES FOR 2008 CSAC LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL MEETING

This year's Legislative Conference will be May 21-22 in Sacramento. Since this will be just a week after the release of budget "May Revise," conference attendees will have the latest information on how the budget proposal will impact California counties. A preliminary conference agenda will be released later this month.

Mark your calendars for CSAC's 114th Annual Meeting, to be held in San Diego County December 1-4. Please note that this year's conference will start on a Monday, with the Annual Banquet scheduled for Wednesday night. Essentially, everything will be moved up one day from the regular schedule. The conference will commence with its traditional kickoff luncheon on Monday, which will allow attendees ample time to travel down to San Diego that morning. Look for more information in the coming months. It's also never too early to reserve your exhibit space for the meeting. For more information, contact Laura Li at lli@counties.org.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 2008

March

- 1-5 NACo Legislative Conference, Washington D.C.
- 5-7 2008 Public Works Officers Institute & CEAC Spring Conference, Hilton Torrey Pines in La Jolla, San Diego County
- 20 CSAC Board of Directors Meeting, Sacramento, Sacramento County

April

- 10 CSAC Executive Committee Meeting, Santa Monica, Los Angeles County
- 16 CalTRUST Annual Meeting, Carmel, Monterey County
- 17-18 CSAC Finance Corp. Annual Meeting, Carmel, Monterey County
- 17-18 San Joaquin Valley Regional Association Conference, Bass Lake, Madera County

May

- 21-22 CSAC Legislative Conference, Sacramento, Sacramento County
- 22 CSAC Board of Directors Meeting, Sacramento, Sacramento County
- 21-23 NACo Western Interstate Region (WIR) Conference, St. George Utah