

2020 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Kathy McKim, Chair
The Hawksbill Group

April 27, 2020

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Honorable Gavin Newsom

George Tanaka, Past Chair
MUFJ Union Bank

Governor, State of California

Traci Lee, Secretary
Lyft

State Capitol

Tim Yamauchi, Board Liaison

Sacramento, CA 95814

Leonor Didican, Legal Counsel
Kronick, Moskovitz, Tiedemann, & Girard

RE: API Small Business Representation on the Task Force for Business and Job Recovery

John Gutierrez, Director-At-Large
Comcast

Governor Newsom:

John Yung, Director-At-Large
Lewis Brisbois

On behalf of the 32-member Board of Directors for the California Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce, and the over 600,000 API-owned businesses in the State of California, we appreciate you taking the initiative to assemble the *Task Force on Business and Job Recovery* to advise you and your Administration through the very difficult economic challenges we all find ourselves in. The work ahead of every Californian is very daunting and complicated, especially for systemically underserved communities.

Andy Wong, Treasurer

2020 DIRECTORS:

Keri Askew Bailey
Charter Communications

It is for this reason that we are especially concerned at the lack of API *small-business representation* on your task force, as the work of this group is to affect "business and job recovery". We strongly urge you to ensure that the API community has a formal way to provide input directly to you and the task force as to the needs of our communities. As you know, not only was the API community hit first by the global pandemic, we have been subjected to overt racism throughout California, which has added another layer of economic pain to API business owners and their employees. It is imperative our API communities across the State are not left behind in our economic recovery.

Heidi Barsuglia
Verizon
Vice President, Public Policy & Legal Affairs

Putu Blanco
Paul Blanco's Good Car Company
Director of Operations/CFO

We have taken note, and appreciate, your consistent reminder of a "California for all"; of the importance of caring for disconnected and underserved populations in California who have faced tremendous hardship and chronic lack of state support and resources in the past; not just lack of access to high quality healthcare, but of equally importance, a lack of access to economic opportunity and the policy settings where such decisions are made.

Jason Chan
AT&T Communications
Director, External Affairs

Yoyo Chan
Golden State Warriors & Chase Center
Vice President, Government & Public Affairs

Jonathan Choi
Dart

API Americans are the fastest-growing ethnic group in the U.S., and California represents **one-third** of the nation's API consumer-buying power: **\$337 billion annually**. Nearly half (46%) of all businesses in California are minority-owned, second in the U.S. only to Hawaii. To have productive conversations that fuse racial equity with economic opportunity into plans to re-open the State of California for business, the voice of API Small Business Owners must have a seat at this table. We urge the Administration to consider, as stated before, that our community was not only hit first by the global pandemic, but has also have been subjected to overt racism during the economic shut-down all across the state which has hurt our community more deeply than others, and likely will prolong our business recovery.

Tarrance Frierson
Southern California Edison

Lambert Hsu
Benefit Pro Insurance Services

For this reason, we propose that a "**Racial Equity Advisory Group**" be established to advise the task force. Such a group, composed of leaders from the API community and other minority communities, would ensure that historic policies and dis-investments, especially as they relate to *small business owners*, that have marked past state policymaking do not undermine your efforts at creating a recovery for all Californians.

Floreine Kahn
PhRMA

Joan Kerr
Pacific Gas & Electric Company

You may reach me anytime on my personal mobile at (916) 870-6606, should you have any questions regarding this letter. I welcome the opportunity to talk with you and your staff about it.

Kevin Loscotoff
Walmart

Ed Manning
KP Public Affairs

Thank you for considering our request.

William Jahmal Miller
CommonSpirit Health

Sincerely,

Bill Mueller
Integrated Communications Strategies



Miki Saini
JPMorgan Chase

Pat Fong Kushida
President/CEO
California Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce

John Tang
Reyes Coca-Cola Bottling

Dr. Betty Uribe
Effectus Enterprises

CC: Ann O'Leary: Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor

Vince Wetzel
State Farm

Tom Steyer: Chief Advisor to the Governor on Business & Jobs Recovery

Margaret Wong
McWong International, Inc.

David Chiu: Chair, API Legislative Caucus, Assemblymember, 17th District

Ron Wong
Imprinta Communications Group

Eleni Kounalakis: Lieutenant Governor, State of California

C.C. Yin
APAPA, Founder & Chair

Fiona Ma: Treasurer, State of California

Toni G. Atkins: President pro Tempore, California State Senate

Anthony Rendon: Speaker, California State Assembly

Shannon Grove: Minority Leader, California State Senate

