



KAREN BASS
MAYOR

March 13, 2026

Honorable Members of the City Council
c/o City Clerk
City Hall, Room 395

Honorable Members:

Subject to your confirmation, I have appointed Mr. Jose Cornejo to the Board of Fire Commissioners for the term ending June 30, 2026 and the subsequent term ending June 30, 2031.

I certify that in my opinion Mr. Cornejo is especially qualified by reason of training and experience for the work which shall devolve upon them, and that I make the appointment solely in the interest of the City.

Mr. Cornejo will fill the vacancy created by the departure of Corinne Babcock.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Bass".

KAREN BASS
Mayor

KB:lap

Attachment

COMMISSION APPOINTMENT FORM

Name: Jose Cornejo
Commission: Board of Fire Commissioners
End of Term: 6/30/2026 and 6/30/2031

Appointee Information

1. **Race:** Latinx
2. **Gender:** male
3. **Council District and neighborhood of residence:** 12 - North Valley
4. **Are you a registered voter in the City of Los Angeles?** Yes
5. **Prior commission experience:**
6. **Highest level of education completed:** Bachelor of Arts in Government, Minor in Economics California State University, Sacramento
7. **Occupation/profession:** Section Manager Legislative Services; Metropolitan Water District
8. **Experience(s) that qualifies person for appointment:** See attached resume
9. **Purpose of this appointment:** Appointment
10. **Current composition of the commission (excluding appointee):**

Commissioner	APC	CD	Race	Gender	Term End
Yolanda Regalado	Harbor	15	L	F	6/30/2029
Jimmie Woods-Gray	South LA	8	AA	F	6/30/2028
Genethia Hudley-Hayes	South LA	8	AA	F	6/30/2027
VACANT					6/30/2026
Elizabeth Garfield	Central	13	C	F	6/30/2030

JOSE CORNEJO

| Strategic Leader | Legislative Advocacy Expert | Trade Associations | Community Engagement | Board Member |

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Strategic public policy leader with extensive experience in civic engagement, legislative strategy, public affairs, and strategic communications. Proven ability to advise senior leadership, guide boards and commissions, and foster cross-sector partnerships that advance community and policy priorities. Skilled in shaping policy initiatives, crafting compelling messaging, leading complex programs, and facilitating stakeholder collaboration.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Public Policy & Legislative Strategy
- Civic Engagement & Community Development
- Executive & Board Advisory
- Program Oversight & Budget Management
- Stakeholder & Government Relations / Coalition Building
- Strategic Planning & Organizational Leadership
- Crisis & Reputation Management
- Strategic Communications & Messaging
- Policy Analysis & Strategic Decision-Making
- Board & Commission Advisory

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Section Manager – Legislative Services Section

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California | Los Angeles, CA | Sept 2025 – Present

- Lead legislative strategy for Metropolitan, aligning advocacy efforts with strategic and operational priorities.
- Direct and mentor a team of government relations professionals, fostering cross-sector coalitions with business, community, education, and environmental stakeholders.
- Serve as primary liaison with federal, state, and local elected officials and legislative offices in Sacramento and Washington, D.C.
- Oversee analysis of legislation to evaluate impacts on programs, infrastructure, and initiatives.
- Plan and manage budgets and contracts for legislative initiatives, sponsorships, and advocacy campaigns.

President

Cornejo Strategies | Los Angeles, CA | July 2011 – Sept 2025

- Founded and led a strategic consulting firm advising public and private clients on legislative, regulatory, and public policy initiatives.
- Directed policy initiatives, stakeholder engagement, and coalition-building efforts for diverse sectors.
- Provided strategic guidance to boards and executive teams on policy decisions and public affairs strategies.

- Developed communications and narratives to elevate client visibility and influence public policy outcomes.
- Partial List of former Clients: Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, NAIOP SoCal, Archdiocese of Los Angeles, ICON Community Development Corporation, SolarCity...

Chief of Staff

City of Los Angeles, City Council | July 2003 – July 2011

- Directed office operations, legislative affairs, land use planning, economic development, and communications for a Council office.
- Supervised a team of 23 staff across three locations.
- Advised on policy reforms, budget oversight, and strategic initiatives for the city.

Chief of Staff

California State Legislature | Sacramento, CA | Dec 1996 – Dec 2002

- Managed up to 28 staff across Capitol and District offices, overseeing legislative strategy, policy development, and office operations.
- Drafted key bills and amendments, advised on state budget strategy, and coordinated stakeholder engagement.

Legislative Consultant

California State Legislature, Latino Legislative Caucus | Apr 1995 – Dec 1996

- Supported legislative priorities, prepared analysis on demographic trends, and facilitated communication between members and staff.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts in Government, Minor in Economics

California State University, Sacramento

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Providence Healthcare, SF Valley Service Area Community Board | Mar 2023 – Present
- Chair, LAUSD Parent Advisory Committee | 2018 – 2019
- Commissioner, City of Los Angeles Redistricting Commission | Aug 2011 – Mar 2012
- Board Member, San Fernando Valley Mental Health Center | 2005 – 2011
- Commissioner, Presidents' Joint Commission on LAUSD Governance | 2005-2006
- Board Member, American Lung Association – Emigrant Trails | 2001 – 2003
- Board Member, Center for Employment Training | 1993 – 2000
- Co-Chair, Mid-Valley YMCA Annual Fundraising Gala | 2005 – 2012



March 13, 2026

Dear Mr. Cornejo:

Congratulations! I am pleased to inform you of your appointment to the Board of Fire Commissioners for the term ending June 30, 2026 and the subsequent term ending June 30, 2031, subject to confirmation by the Los Angeles City Council.

On behalf of the people of Los Angeles, thank you for your willingness to serve. Our boards and commissions are a vital part of the City's governance, and your leadership and expertise will play an important role in shaping the future of Los Angeles.

To move forward, there are a few steps you must complete prior to the Council's consideration of your appointment. My Commission Affairs team has prepared an attached checklist with deadlines and submission instructions, and they are available to support you throughout the confirmation process.

Once again, congratulations, and thank you for your commitment to serve the people of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Bass". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Karen" and the last name "Bass" clearly distinguishable.

KAREN BASS
Mayor

KB:lap

Attachment I
Mr. Jose Cornejo
March 13, 2026

Nominee Check List

I. Within 7 days of appointment:

- ☐ Submit the completed forms, found on the last three pages of this letter, to: myr-commissions@lacity.org **OR** mail them to:

Office of the Mayor
Attn: Luz Portillo
200 N. Spring Street, Room 303
Los Angeles, CA 90012

 - Remuneration Form
 - Undated Separation Letters (2)
- ☐ Schedule a fingerprinting appointment to complete your background check.
 - The Commissions team will connect you with the Personnel Background Unit.
- ☐ Complete and file a Statement of Economic Interests (Form 700).
- ☐ Submit the CEC Form 60 (Ethics Clearance Form) to the City Ethics Commission.
 - The City Council cannot act on your nomination until the Ethics Department receives and submits your filings.
 - Note: you will be required to submit the same forms again after you are sworn in

II. Council Member Meetings:

You may be asked to meet with Councilmembers prior to your hearings.

- ☐ Your City Councilmember John Lee
- ☐ Councilmember John Lee, Chair of the Council Committee, considering your nomination

III. Public Meetings at City Hall:

- ☐ Public Safety Committee Hearing
 - The Clerk's office will contact you once your item has been scheduled.
- ☐ Full Council Hearing and Oath of Office
 - The Clerk's office will contact you once your item has been scheduled.

V. Standing Requirements

- Notify the Commissions team of any changes in address or contact information.
- If you wish to resign, you must submit a resignation letter to myr-commissions@lacity.org.