

COMING UP AT THE CHAMBER

[View all upcoming events on our Web calendar.](#)

WED | Dec. 20
Transportation & Goods Movement Committee Meeting
[more info](#) | [register](#)

WED | Dec. 20
Environmental Quality Committee Meeting
[more info](#) | [register](#)

FRI | Jan. 12
Health Care Committee Meeting
[more info](#) | [register](#)

WED | Jan. 17
Business After Hours Mixer
Taste of the Chamber
[more info](#) | [register](#)

THU | Jan. 25
118th Inaugural Dinner
[more info](#) | [register](#)

BOTTOM-LINE BENEFITS

Adding value to your Chamber membership



The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce is the voice of business in L.A. County. Founded in 1888, the Chamber promotes a prosperous economy and quality of life in the Los Angeles region. For more information, visit www.lachamber.org



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA LEADERS: The [Southern California Leadership Network](#) recognized four outstanding leaders at its annual awards luncheon Dec. 5. From left: Chamber V.P. of Leadership Programs Kevin Cottrell; Southern California Leader of the Year, Robert A. Eckert, **Mattel, Inc.**; Elected Leader of the Year, California State Assembly Speaker Fabian Núñez; Civic Leader of the Year, Peter J. Taylor, Lehman Brothers Inc.; and Graduate of the Year, Maria Contreras-Sweet, PROMERICA Bank. SCLN is currently recruiting for its Leadership L.A. class of 2007. [Apply now](#) or for more information, contact Program and Communications Assistant Taleen Ananian, 213.580.7526 or tananian@lachamber.org. ([View photo gallery](#))

Chamber briefed by Assemblymember Dymally on uninsured

The current political climate is conducive to working on a solution to reduce the number of uninsured and make health care affordable, said Assemblymember Mervyn Dymally, chair of the State Assembly Health Committee, at the Chamber's Health Care Committee meeting Friday. In the past year, 6.5 million Californians under the age of 65 were uninsured, Dymally said. In L.A. County, 25 percent of the population lacked insurance. The Health Care Committee also received an update on Martin Luther King-Harbor Medical Center and the homeless health initiative. For more information, contact Director of Public Policy Samuel Garrison, 213.580.7568 or sgarrison@lachamber.org.

Chamber updated on L.A.'s industrial land use policy and rent control measure

The Chamber's Land Use, Construction & Housing Committee heard from Don Spivack of the L.A. City Planning Department Thursday, on plans to update the city's [industrial land use policy](#). In considering the policy, the department is taking into account a number of issues, including the need for a balance of jobs and housing in the area, and that new housing in industrial zones increases land costs for new and expanding businesses. The committee agreed to write a letter of concern to the L.A. City Council regarding the Council's proposed revisions to the condominium conversion policy and rent control ordinances; and agreed to support the Hollywood Freeway Park Cap, which would create 24 acres of new green space. For more information, contact Director of Public Policy Samuel Garrison, 213.580.7568 or sgarrison@lachamber.org.

Chamber urges members to voice concerns on AQMD's air quality plan

The Chamber asks members to submit comments to the South Coast Air Quality Management District on the [2007 Air Quality Management Plan](#). The comment period ends Friday, Dec. 15. Representatives from AQMD have met with the Chamber's Environmental Quality Committee in the past several months to express concerns over the plans. For more information, contact Public Policy Manager Nicholas Quinonez, 213.580.7531 or nquinonez@lachamber.org.

Chamber discusses plans of next trade mission with mayor's trade director

It is vital for L.A. to strengthen ties with other countries because the city's future is tied to economic integration, said Andre Lewis, international trade and development director for the office of Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa at the Chamber's International Trade & Investments Committee meeting Wednesday. Lewis spoke about the benefits of the mayor's recent trip to Asia and said the next trip will likely be to Latin America in the spring. For more information, contact International Trade Manager Vanessa Pereda, 213.580.7538 or vpereda@lachamber.org.

Chamber to hear about transportation from Feuer

State Assemblymember Mike Feuer will discuss efforts to coordinate Southern California's transportation bond funding priorities as the Legislature starts their session

MEMBER HIGHLIGHT



LAUSD Board President Marlene Canter and fellow LAUSD representatives thank Vons at the 2006 Education Summit

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THIS WEEK'S BUSINESS PERSPECTIVE

["Let the Redistricting Begin"](#)



OVERHEARD

"L.A. is the first U.S. city to have a tourism office in Beijing, China. China ranks 7th worldwide in total travel spending."

--**Andre Lewis**, International Trade & Development Director for the office of Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, speaking at the Chamber's International Trade & Investments Committee meeting Wednesday.

MEDIA HITS

["Las batallas por los salarios."](#) *La Opinión*, Dec. 8. The Chamber is urging local businesses to sign a petition for a referendum to overturn the living wage ordinance.

Chamber President & CEO Gary Toebben spoke against L.A. city regulating private wages on KNBC, Dec. 8.

EVENT HIGHLIGHT



UCLA EXECUTIVE PROGRAM: "MBA essentials" in 21 sessions Apply NOW for session

Jan. 2 at the Chamber's [Transportation & Goods Movement Committee](#) Wednesday, Dec. 20, noon-1:30 p.m. at the Chamber. The committee will also hear from and provide input to Mike DiBernardo, the **Port of Los Angeles** director of planning and research, who will provide an update on the 2007 Port Master Plan. [Register now](#), or for more information, contact Director of Public Policy Samuel Garrison, 213.580.7568 or sgarrison@lachamber.org.

beginning Jan. 14th

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