



KAREN BASS  
MAYOR

March 11, 2024

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

Honorable Members:

Subject to your confirmation, I have appointed Mr. Richard Katz to the Board of Water and Power Commissioners for the term ending June 30, 2026.

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

Mr. Katz will fill the vacancy created by the departure of Nicole Brady.

Sincerely,

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

KAREN BASS  
Mayor

KB:tga

Attachment

## COMMISSION APPOINTMENT FORM

**Name:** Richard Katz  
**Commission:** Board of Water and Power Commissioners  
**End of Term:** 6/30/2026

### Appointee Information

1. **Race:** Caucasian
2. **Gender:** Male
3. **Council District and neighborhood of residence:** 4 - South Valley
4. **Are you a registered voter in the City of Los Angeles?** Yes
5. **Prior commission experience:**
6. **Highest level of education completed:** B.A., Political Science, Minor in History, San Diego State University
7. **Occupation/profession:** President and Founder, Richard Katz Consulting, Inc.
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
Katz, Nurit	South Valley	4	Caucasian	F	6/30/2028
VACANT					6/30/2026
Lehrer, Mia	Central	4	Latinx	F	6/30/2024
Pinder, Wilma	South LA	10	African American	F	6/30/2027
McGraw, George	East LA	13	Caucasian	M	6/30/2025

# RICHARD KATZ

Richard Katz has led a 44-year career of public service, including 16 years in the California State Assembly. Katz's career and civic leadership focuses on environmental stewardship, transforming transportation and infrastructure investments, water policy and expanding educational opportunities, especially in the San Fernando Valley

## **Professional and Civic Board Experience**

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### **President and Founder, Richard Katz Consulting, Inc** **1997 to Present**

- Successful public policy and government relations firm, which provides strategic advice and counsel, message development, negotiations and mediation
- Guides clients through state and local executive, legislative, and regulatory activities
- Develops, directs, and implements communications strategies to selected stakeholder audiences

### **Director, Metrolink Board of Directors** **2008 to 2015**

- Appointed to Metrolink Board in 2008, serving two years as the Chair. Focused on safety issues stemming from the horrific Chatsworth derailment, leading the effort that resulted in Metrolink being the first passenger railroad in the United States to implement Positive Train Control (PTC), a state-of-the-art life-saving satellite-based safety technology

### **Director, LA County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Board** **2005 to 2014**

- Appointed to Metro Board in 2005 by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa to represent City of Los Angeles
- Developed successful campaigns for Measure R and Measure M -- countywide sales tax measures, each supported by over 70% of countywide voters -- raising billions of dollars for transportation investments, improving sustainability, converting the bus and goods movement network to zero emissions, promoting safety and mobility access for all while reducing single occupant vehicle driving
- Measure R and Measure M has created tens of thousands of well-paying union jobs

### **Member, California State Water Resources Control Board** **2001 to 2006**

- Appointed in 2001, reappointed and reconfirmed by the State Senate to a full four-year term in 2002, serving in the Board's Water Quality position

### **Senior Advisor on Energy and Water Issues, Governor Gray Davis** **2002 to 2003**

- Appointed by Governor Davis as his Senior Advisor on Energy and Water issues.
- Served as California's lead negotiator for the 2003 landmark Colorado River Agreement between the Federal Government, the State of California, four California Water Agencies, and seven Colorado River Basin States
- Played a pivotal role in re-negotiating \$30 billion worth of California's Energy contracts saving California ratepayers \$6.3 billion dollars

### **California State Assembly Democratic Leader** **1995 to 1996**

- Managed leadership staff of policy unit, communications, members' services, and outside consultants
- Led Assembly Democrats back to majority status winning 43 seats in the 1996 elections

- Elected to the California State Assembly from the San Fernando Valley in 1980 and served continuously for 16 years (California's term limits law prohibited re-election after 1996).
- Served ten years as chair of the powerful Assembly Transportation Committee
- Authored legislation to create the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) by merging the Rapid Transit District (RTD) and the Los Angeles County Transportation Commission (LACTC), resulting in a comprehensive and focused plan to improve air quality, promote equity in transportation investments, expand zero emission mobility options, and increase access to jobs, all while putting thousands of Angelenos to work in well-paying careers building the region's multi-billion mobility network
- Authored legislation creating Proposition 111, a 10-year Transportation Blueprint for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, which raised more money for mass transit and highways than any other effort in California history. Approved by voters in 1990
- Authored legislation to create CALSTART in 1992. CALSTART is an innovation aggregator, working with the public and private sectors to build a high-tech, clean transportation industry which creates jobs, reduces air pollution and fights climate change
- Authored AB 2746, California's landmark water trading law
- Challenged the oil and chemical industries by authoring and passing the toughest (at that time) groundwater protection law in the country, known as the Toxic Pits Cleanup Act
- Created the Congestion Management Plan, requiring cities and counties to measure and mitigate impacts of land use decisions on their streets, highways and transit systems
- Built a strong and widely recognized record on environmental, water, transportation, education, criminal justice and consumer issues
- Key legislative accomplishments include Mono Lake restoration, groundwater protection, tougher prisoner sentencing laws, placement of computers in schools, and \$100 million green school bus replacement program to replace unsafe buses with a modern, safe, green fuel bus fleet

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**Education**

**San Diego State University**, Bachelor of Arts (BA) Political Science major, History minor

**June 1972**

**Santa Monica City College**, Associate degree

**June 1970**

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**Civic Leadership**

- Led the effort to broaden the participation in the 1984 Olympic Games in the San Fernando Valley through an expanded Olympic Torch Run. Carried the 1984 Olympic Torch into the San Fernando Valley on its way to Rafer Johnson at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum
  - Board member, Heal the Bay
  - Chairman Emeritus, Economic Alliance of the San Fernando Valley
  - National Board member Defenders of Wildlife
  - Chairman, West Coast Sports Medicine Foundation.
  - Board member, Valley Industry and Commerce Association (VICA)
  - Board member, Valley Presbyterian Hospital
  - Board member, QueensCare Charitable Division
  - Board member, Los Angeles Children's Museum
  - Board member, Encino Tarzana Hospital Foundation
  - Board member, Citizens for Reliable and Safe Highways (CRASH)
  - Advisory Board member, Children's Community School
  - Board of Governors Member, Rose Institute of State and Local Government, Claremont College.
  - Taught "Politics of Water" as a guest lecturer at the Aquarium of the Pacific
  - Chaired *Angelenos for Better Classrooms*, which led the successful 1997 campaign to pass a \$2.4 billion Los Angeles school bond
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KAREN BASS  
MAYOR

March 11, 2024

Dear Mr. Katz:

I am pleased to inform you that I hereby appoint you to the Board of Water and Power Commissioners for the term ending June 30, 2026, subject to confirmation by the City Council.

To begin the appointment process, please review, sign, and return the enclosed Remuneration Form and undated Letters of Separation **within one week** of receiving this letter. These documents are necessary to ensure the most efficient, open, and accountable city government possible.

Mayor's Office policy requires all potential commissioners to be fingerprinted as part of the background check. The Commissions team will assist in connecting you with Personnel's Background Unit so that you may schedule an appointment to have this done. You must schedule the appointment **within one week** of receiving this letter.

Should this apply to your commission, you will be receiving a packet from the City Ethics Commission containing information about the City's conflict of interest laws, and a copy of the State Form 700/Statement of Economic Interests. You are required to complete and return this form **within 21 days** of your nomination to the City Ethics Commission via the California Fair Political Practices Commission's eDisclosure website, or by mailing the forms to City Hall at 200 N. Spring Street, 24th Floor, Los Angeles, California 90012. Any inquiries regarding this form should be directed to Nicole Enriquez at the City Ethics Commission by email at [nicole.enriquez@lacity.org](mailto:nicole.enriquez@lacity.org).

As part of the appointment process, Nithya Raman, your Councilmember, and Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky, the Chair of the Energy and Environment Committee, may wish to meet with you to answer any questions they have. Our office will assist with arranging these meetings.

Mr. Richard Katz  
March 11, 2024  
Page 2

Additionally, you will be required to attend public meetings at City Hall where your appointment will be considered. You will be hearing from our office and a City Council Clerk who will let you know when your appointment will be considered by the Energy and Environment Committee. Sometime thereafter, you will be notified of the date when your appointment will be presented to the full City Council. Before you may begin serving, you will be required to take the Oath of Office in the City Clerk's Office located in Room 395 of City Hall. If you require parking for these meetings, please contact my Commissions team by email at [myr-commissions@lacity.org](mailto:myr-commissions@lacity.org).

Per the City Charter, most commissioners must be registered voters of the City of Los Angeles, and must therefore reside within Los Angeles. If you move at any point during your term, or your contact information changes, please contact my Commissions team immediately at the email address listed below. While we hope that you complete a successful term, if for some reason you intend to resign, please do so in writing to my Commissions team at [myr-commissions@lacity.org](mailto:myr-commissions@lacity.org).

Congratulations, and thank you for agreeing to serve the people of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Bass". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

KAREN BASS  
Mayor

KB:tga

Attachment I  
Mr. Richard Katz  
March 11, 2024

## **Nominee Check List**

### **I. Within 7 days:**

- Email the below completed documents, found on the last three pages of this letter, to: [myr-commissions@lacity.org](mailto:myr-commissions@lacity.org) OR mail them to:  
Office of the Mayor  
Attn: Thomas Arechiga  
200 N. Spring Street, Room 303  
Los Angeles, CA 90012
  - Remuneration Form
  - Undated Separation Letters (2)
  
- Schedule an appointment to get fingerprinted to complete a background check. The Commissions team will assist in connecting you with the Personnel Background Unit.

### **II. Before your appointment is heard in committee or full council (you will be contacted by the Clerk's Office with this date):**

- File the following forms with the City Ethics Commission. If you are required to file, you will receive these forms via email from that office. Be sure to take no more than 21 days to file, per City law.
  - Statement of Economic Interest ("Form 700")  
*IMPORTANT:* The City Council will not consider your nomination until your completed form is reviewed by the Ethics Commission.
  - CEC Form 60

### **III. The Mayor's Office will notify the below Councilmembers of your nomination, so that they may reach out to schedule a meeting with you should they wish.**

- Your City Councilmember Nithya Raman
  
- Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky, Chair of the Council Committee considering your nomination

### **IV. Public Meetings at City Hall:**

- Energy and Environment Committee Hearing
  
- Full Council Hearing