

# Memorandum

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR AND  
CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Councilmember Kansen  
Chu

**SUBJECT:** REQUEST TO TRAVEL

**DATE:** August 24, 2009

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**Recommendation:** Authorize Councilmember Chu's travel to Yosemite, CA to attend the 2009 Class of the Great Valley Leadership Institute September 30-October 4, 2009.

**Authorization for:** Councilmember Kansen Chu

**Location:** Tenaya Lodge, Fish Camp/Yosemite, CA

**Meeting Dates:** September 30 – October 4, 2009

**Source of Funds:** Mayor/Council Travel Fund

**Purpose:** Councilmember Chu is one of five elected city officials that were nominated by the League of California Cities' Board Executive Committee to participate in the 2009 Class of the Great Valley Leadership Institute. Similar nominations were made by the California School Boards Association and California State Association of Counties. **All participants will receive fully covered tuition, preparatory materials/books, lodging and meals for the 4 1/2 day Institute. Travel is not covered.** The Institute will be held at the Tenaya Lodge in Yosemite September 30-October 4, 2009.

Additional information about the Institute is attached.

cc: Lee Price, City Clerk

**Espinoza, Margie**

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**From:** Mimi Sharpe [SharpeM@cacities.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 08, 2009 11:24 AM  
**To:** avcm@jps.net; Mark Wheatley; mwheatley@dfg.ca.gov; Ed Balico; choicezchu@aol.com; District4; Espinoza, Margie; Stephany Aguilar  
**Subject:** Great Valley Leadership Institute 2009 -- League of CA Cities' Scholarship Selections  
**Importance:** High

After review and consideration from the League Board's Executive Committee, we are happy to inform you all that the following applicants have been chosen for 2009's Great Valley Leadership Institute class. We have forwarded your contact information and resumes to Great Valley Leadership Institute. They will be contacting you soon.

**John Plourde, Council Member, Lemoore**  
**Mark Wheatley, Mayor, Arcata**  
**Ed Balico, Council Member, Hercules**  
**Kansen Chu, Council Member, San Jose**  
**Stephany Aguilar, Council Member, Scotts Valley**

Congratulations! If you fail to be contacted within the next two weeks, please contact: Angelina Ceja: [angelina@greatvalley.org](mailto:angelina@greatvalley.org) or (209) 522-5103 at Great Valley Leadership Institute.

Thank you!

Mimi Sharpe  
Executive Assistant  
League of California Cities  
916-658-8232  
[msharpe@cacities.org](mailto:msharpe@cacities.org)



# Great Valley Leadership Institute

The Great Valley Leadership Institute (GVLI) is specifically designed for local elected officials to address the challenges they face in elected office. GVLI counts supervisors, mayors, council members and school board members among its more than 200 alumni from across California.

## Unique, Ethics-based Training by Nationally Recognized Faculty

The Institute is an intensive, 4½-day experience providing an unmatched opportunity to access world-renowned faculty from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. It is a rare chance to have West Coast, direct access to distinguished faculty in a small-group atmosphere. The Institute provides a substantive and comprehensive way to build on the ethics training now required by law.

## Rich Content

As you know better than most, leaders in California are currently making public policy decisions that will shape outcomes for decades. The responsibility facing these elected leaders is continually increasing and becoming more complex. The Great Valley Leadership Institute helps participants acquire a new frame of reference and improved tools to deal with a broad menu of issues. GVLI allows elected officials to explore the values that help them formulate decisions, understand diverse approaches to common issues, and acquire new techniques for working with colleagues and constituents. Examples of session topics include:

- Exercising Leadership and Authority
- Shared Decision-Making
- Thinking Ethically
- Personal Assessment
- Spirituality in Public Affairs

Through the use of case studies, skill development, and guided self-analysis, class members are immersed in a leadership experience summarized by the following quotes from past graduates:

*"It taught me more about myself. I will never think about leadership the same again."*

*"The program is the best thing that has happened to me through my career."*

*"I was not sure it would be useful and challenging to me. Wow! I am so glad I came. I met the best people and challenged my thinking on a number of issues."*

*"It is the best program ever. I grew as a person and as an elected official."*

## Conducive Setting

The remote setting of Tenaya Lodge, outside Yosemite, encourages full participation and offers amenities which help offset the intensity of the schedule and experience. It also provides one of the few occasions a local elected official can expand their leadership capacity and be rewarded for their hard work and time-consuming commitment.

***For more program information, visit us online at <http://www.greatvalley.org/gvli/index.aspx> or contact Angelina Ceja, Great Valley Center, at (209) 522-5103 or [angelina@greatvalley.org](mailto:angelina@greatvalley.org).***

*One of the VERY BEST sessions/class/trainings  
I have ever attended in my many years in the  
private or public sector.*

## Great Valley Leadership Institute Impacts

GVLI Alumni are bringing inspiration and effectiveness to a broad range of California's citizens, through serving in-state and local government.

In evaluations completed by GVLI participants, additional benefits cited were:

- the creation of new networks among elected officials in nearby jurisdictions;
- a greater ability to think regionally (beyond one's own jurisdiction);
- an increase in the desire to work collaboratively;
- increased confidence in leading action;
- a unanimous recommendation of the program to other elected officials.

## Request for Applicants

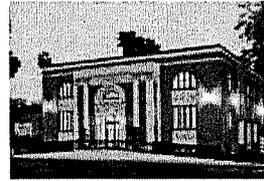
The 2009 GVLI will be held in the fall, in a remote setting outside Yosemite which encourages full participation and offers amenities to help offset the intensity of the schedule and experience. It also provides one of the few occasions a local elected official can expand their leadership capacity and be rewarded for their hard work and time-consuming commitment.

For more information on how to participate, contact Angelina Ceja at Great Valley Center, (209) 522-5103 or [angelina@greatvalley.org](mailto:angelina@greatvalley.org).

## Background of Great Valley Center

The GVLI was created by the Great Valley Center as a part of its mission to support activities and organizations benefitting the economic, social and environmental well-being of California's Great Central Valley.

A one-of-a-kind resource, all of the Great Valley Center programs gather people representing an extraordinary array of interests to talk, listen and plan together. With a well-established reputation for neutral leadership and connections that span every sector and community, the Great Valley Center is the organization most trusted by elected officials, business leaders, farmers, teachers and community leaders to convene stakeholders, share impartial and up-to-date information and help people create realistic plans for change.



The Great Valley Center is led by Dr. David Hosley and a governing board committed to the values and mission of this special organization. Its staff includes experts in a variety of issues that are essential to the Valley's short-term and long-term success. Dr. Hosley will attend this year's session, along with Senior Program Manager Dejeuné Shelton, an alumna of GVLI who is Vice Mayor of Patterson, and Angelina Ceja, who has coordinated logistics since GVLI started. For more information on the Great Valley Center's leaders and staff, please visit the "About Us" page at [www.greatvalley.org](http://www.greatvalley.org).

# GREAT VALLEY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

*A Program of the Great Valley Center*



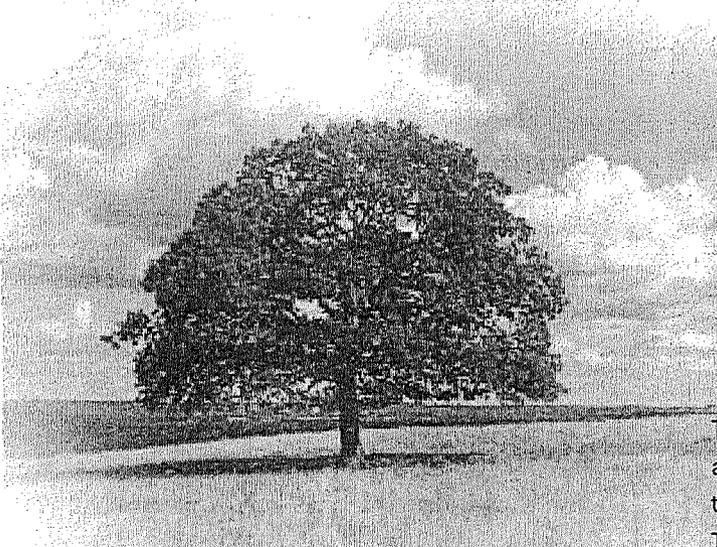
*Equipping California's  
leaders with the tools  
needed to create a  
robust future*

For more information, please contact:

Angelina Ceja  
Deputy Director of Administration  
GREAT VALLEY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE  
201 Needham Street  
Modesto, CA 95354  
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Fax: (209) 522-5116  
[www.greatvalley.org](http://www.greatvalley.org)



# To Recognize, Develop and Encourage Elected Leaders in California's Central Valley



## Creating California's Future

When the votes have all been cast and counted, election winners quickly face staggering challenges. Newly elected and even seasoned leaders often struggle as they navigate economic, political and social issues; shaping policy with wide-ranging impacts while working under the scrutiny of the media and their constituents.

The Great Valley Center is an acknowledged resource for elected officials. In 2002, it created the Great Valley Leadership Institute to equip elected officials with the tools they need to accomplish what they want most: to help California create a robust future.

*The GVLI has given me an opportunity to evaluate myself, my leadership skills and really have the opportunity to see how I can sharpen my abilities to help my constituents.*

*Leadership skills are important at every level of government.*

*Public Service demands the best from each of us.*

Ruben Barrales, President & CEO at San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, and former White House Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

## The Best Training at the Most Critical Juncture

The Great Valley Center knows that both newly elected and seasoned leaders can benefit from quality training to help them accomplish their many important tasks. That's why the Great Valley Center created the Great Valley Leadership Institute.

The Great Valley Leadership Institute is recognized as an effective and valued leadership training program and is supported by the California State Association of Counties, the League of California Cities and the California School Boards Association.

*A tremendous learning experience, along with a group of wonderful elected officials. It's great to have the different jurisdictions and different geographical areas.*

Now in its seventh year, the GVLI invites high-potential elected officials who have served at least one year on a city council, board of supervisors or school board to spend 4½ days developing their skills on how to approach topics such as community building, effective negotiations, thinking critically, creating coalitions and working with the media.

## Nationally Recognized Faculty

**Marty Linsky, J.D.**, is a full-time faculty member of the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and co-founder of the Cambridge Leadership Associates. An expert in facilitation, leadership training, ethics and strategic planning, Marty Linsky is a former state legislator in Massachusetts. He is associated with Cambridge Leadership Associates and is co-author of *Leadership on the Line*.

**Saletta Boni Ph.D.**, is an organizational psychologist with expertise in leadership and work team development. She is a faculty member at Columbia University and participates in the senior executive programs as well as customized client work for the Columbia Business School Executive Education Program. Dr. Boni is a senior consultant and managing partner with Leadership Consulting Associates, based in New York.

*I loved all the instruction, formal and informal. Most of us are on a similar path and want to make a difference on multiple levels.*

The training is especially renowned for helping these officials broaden their perspectives, become more inclusive stewards of their communities, and exercise ethical and professional leadership.