

Sacramento Charter Review Committee

Panel Presentation Format

May 18, 2009
6:00 p.m.

Governance/Budget Panelists

Raphael J. Sonenshein, Ph.D. – California State University, Fullerton
James H. Svara, Ph.D. – Arizona State University
Robert J. Waste, Ph.D. – California State University, Sacramento

Format

1. Panel presentation will begin with brief introductory comments from each of the speakers on their background.
2. Next, the Chair will guide the panelists through a series of questions. After a question is answered by all panelists, the Chair will invite Committee questions related to the testimony on that question before moving on to the next question.
3. Questions:
 - a. Benefits/limitations of unified vs. separated executive and legislative branches in local government (impact on policy development, leadership, accountability, etc.).
 - b. Why do cities convert to/from unified vs. separated governmental structures? What have been their/others' impressions after the change? What are some examples and what do they look like?
 - c. Appointment powers - What are the typical appointment powers of a Mayor or City Manager? Why?
 - d. Pros/cons of Mayor vs. City Manager proposed budget?
4. Other General Questions From Committee Members for Panelists?
5. Speaker Closing Comments

Raphael J. Sonenshein

Raphael J. Sonenshein, professor of political science and public administration at California State University, Fullerton, received his B.A. in public policy from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in political science from Yale University. He has written extensively on the relationships among racial and ethnic groups, and on the governance of American cities. His book Politics in Black and White: Race and Power in Los Angeles (Princeton University Press, 1993) received the 1994 Ralph J. Bunche Award from the American Political Science Association as the best political science book of the year on the subject of racial and ethnic pluralism.

Dr. Sonenshein served as Executive Director of the City of Los Angeles (Appointed) Charter Reform Commission between 1997 and 1999. As a result of the Charter reform process, a new Charter was placed on the June 1999 ballot, and received 60% of the vote, thereby completing the first successful comprehensive reform of the Los Angeles Charter in 75 years. Dr. Sonenshein's book, The City at Stake: Secession, Reform, and the Battle for Los Angeles, was published in 2004 by Princeton University Press and in paperback in 2006.

He has been selected as the fall 2008 Fulbright Tocqueville Distinguished Chair in American Studies, and will teach and join a research team on immigration politics in France and the USA at the University of Paris 8.

In 1999, he was selected as principal consultant to the City of Pasadena Charter Reform Task Force on School District Governance. In that capacity, he wrote a report calling for major changes in the school district, which was placed on the November 2000 ballot, and received 75% of the vote. He has since served as principal consultant to successful charter reforms in Glendale and Culver City, assisted the City of Riverside Task Force on Neighborhood Governance, and is currently advising charter reform committees in Burbank, and in Portland, Oregon.

In 2006, Dr. Sonenshein was named Executive Director of the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Review Commission to examine the system set up in the 1999 charter. The Commission will deliver its recommendations to the City Council in September 2007.

In 2001, Dr. Sonenshein was selected as the second Fellow of the John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation to serve an 18 month term beginning in July, 2001. As the Haynes Fellow, Dr. Sonenshein acted as a liaison between the Foundation and the academic community and helped develop the Foundation's initiative in the area of governance of the Los Angeles region. In September 2002, he organized a scholarly conference on the reform of Los Angeles government.

In 1997, 2001, and 2005, Dr. Sonenshein served as the political consultant to the election-day *Los Angeles Times* Poll. He is frequently quoted in local and national media,

including the *New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *USA Today*, CNN, the Associated Press, National Public Radio, and the *Washington Post*. His monthly column, "The Jewish Vote" in the Jewish Journal of Greater Los Angeles was nominated in 2005 for the best editorial by the Los Angeles Press Club. He has also written op-ed columns for the *Los Angeles Times* and *La Opinion*. He is a frequent speaker at academic, professional, and community events. He has often been invited to address conferences sponsored by national foundations.

Dr. Sonenshein has received numerous awards, including Best Educator from the CSUF Associated Students and Distinguished Faculty Member from the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. In 2005, Dr. Sonenshein was one of four statewide CSU faculty members to receive the \$20,000 Wang Family Excellence Award. In 2006, he was named the first winner of the campus wide Carol Barnes Award for Teaching Excellence.

He was recently named one of two co-winners (along with Dowell Myers of USC) of \$25,000 awards from the John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation of the first Haynes Research Impact Awards.

In October 2006, the League of Women Voters published his third book, *Los Angeles: Structure of a City Government* for distribution throughout the city government, neighborhood councils, the schools, and the public libraries. His recent books have led to his inclusion as a panelist/author in the 2007 *Los Angeles Times* Festival of Books.

His current research, with CSUF geographer Mark Drayse, and supported by a grant from the Russell Sage Foundation, explores the prospects for urban coalitions in an age of immigration. Together they are writing a book on the coalition patterns that emerged in the election of Antonio Villaraigosa as mayor of Los Angeles.

JAMES H. SVARA: BIOGRAPHY

Jim Svava is Professor in the School of Public Affairs at Arizona State University and Director of the Center for Urban Innovation.

In his research and teaching, he specializes in local government politics, management, and ethics, and has a special interest in the roles and responsibilities of elected and administrative leaders in local government. He is the author of numerous journal articles and book chapters that examine leadership by mayors, council members, and city managers. The books he has written include

- *Official Leadership in the City: Patterns of Conflict and Cooperation*
- *A Survey of America's City Councils: Two Decades of Continuity and Change*
- *Facilitative Leadership in Local Government: Lessons from Successful Mayors and Chairpersons* (editor and contributor)
- *Leadership at the Apex: Political-Administrative Relations in Western Local Government* (co-authored with Poul Erik Mouritzen from Denmark).
- *The Ethics Primer for Public Administrators in Government and Nonprofit Organizations*

He is a fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration and an honorary member of the International City/County Management Association. He has served as a member of the National Council of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) and chair of the Section on Intergovernmental Administration & Management of ASPA. He is currently on the board of the Alliance for Innovation and a member of the ICMA Strategic Planning Committee.

He has spoken at meetings of the International City/County Management Association, the National League of Cities, and the National Association of Counties, as well as to students and organizations of local government officials in twelve states and five foreign countries. He has served as a consultant to city governments on charter revision in several states and to the Forum for Executive Public Management in Denmark, and he contributed to the drafting of the 7th and 8th editions of the *Model City Charter* of the National Civic League.

He received the BA in History from the University of Kentucky and the Ph.D. in Political Science from Yale University. He has served on the faculty of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro where he directed the Public Administration Program and at North Carolina State University where he was director of the Public Administration Program from 1990-1998 and head of the department from 1998-2005. He has been a visiting scholar at the University of Southern Denmark in 1998 and 2006.

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CURRENT POSITION

Present FERP (Faculty Early Retirement Program) Professor and former Department Chair, Department of Public Policy and Administration, California State University, Sacramento.

PUBLIC SERVICE/PUBLIC AFFAIRS APPOINTMENTS

2000-2003 **Commissioner, Vice Chair, and Chair**, City of Sacramento Planning Commission.

2002-2003 **Member**, City of Sacramento Heritage Board.

1999-2000 **Chair**, City of Sacramento Campaign Reform Commission.

1998-2000 **Faculty Representative**, CSUS Alumni Association, Board of Directors

EDUCATION

1981-1982 Harvard University (Political Science), National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Teaching Fellow.

1980-1981 Yale University (Political Science), Pre-Doctoral Fellow.

1972-1981 University of California, Davis (Political Science), Ph.D., 1981.

1968, 1970 California State University, Sacramento (Government), BA, MA.

EDITORIAL BOARD/PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION APPOINTMENTS

2002-Present Member, Editorial Board, *California Policy and Politics* Journal.

1995-2001 Member, Editorial Board, *Journal of Urban Affairs*.

1993-1995 Member, Advisory Board, American Political Science Association Urban Politics Section.

1992-1993 President, Northern California Political Science Association.

1985-1989 Public Delegate, San Diego Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO).

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2001 Distinguished Teaching Award, Alumni Association, California State University, Sacramento.
- 1994-1995 Albert A. Levin Chair of Urban Studies and Public Service, Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University
- 1970 Earl Warren Prize, California State University, Sacramento. Government Department award for distinguished graduating senior.

PREVIOUS ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 1997-2009 Professor and former Department Chair, Department of Public Policy and Administration, California State University, Sacramento.
- 1989-1997 Professor, Department of Political Science, California State University, Chico.
- 1983-1989 Assistant, Associate and Full Professor, School of Public Administration and Urban Studies, San Diego State University.
- 1981-1983 Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Brown University.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANCIES

State of California – CalPERS, the California Public Employees Retirement System – analysis of the economic impact of PERS retiree benefit payments (2007).

State of California – CalSTRS, the State Teachers' Retirement System – analysis of the economic impact of STRS retiree benefit payments (2007).

State and County Retirement System – SACRS - analysis of the economic impact of SACRS retiree benefit payments (2007).

The California Endowment – (TCE) – analysis of the policy options and possibility of health care reform in Sacramento County (2007-2009).

City of Elk Grove, California – Consultant on the proposed Sphere of Influence (SOI) city boundary modification proposed to the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo). (2008-2009).

PUBLICATIONS: BOOKS

Waste, Robert J., *Independent Cities: Rethinking U.S. Urban Policy* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1998).

Waste, Robert J., *The Ecology of City Policymaking* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1989).

Waste, Robert J., *Power and Pluralism in American Cities: Researching the Urban Laboratory* (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1987).

Waste, Robert J. (ed.), *Community Power: Directions for Future Research* (Newbury Park, CA.: Sage Publications, 1986).

Marshall, Dale Rogers and Robert J. Waste, *Large City Responses to the Community Development Act* (Davis, CA: Institute of Governmental Affairs, University of California, Davis – California Studies in Community Policy and Change Series, 1977).

ARTICLES

Waste, Robert J., and Gregory D. Russell, "The Limits of Reinventing Government," *American Review of Public Administration*, Vol. 28, No. 4 (December 1998): 325-346.

Waste, Robert J. "Wanted: Urban Theory – Dead or Alive," Book Review Essay, *Urban Affairs Review* (Vol. 31, July 1996).

Waste, Robert J., "Concentrated Poverty & the City as Reservation," *Journal of Urban Affairs* (Vol. 17, Winter 1995).

Waste, Robert J., "City Limits, Pluralism and Urban Political Economy," *Journal of Urban Affairs* (Vol. 15, Winter 1993).

Waste, Robert J., and Charles Price, "Reforming a Reform," *California Journal* (February 1991).

Waste, Robert J., "Deja Vu and Disaster: Federal-Urban Policy in the 1990's," *Urban Resources* (Spring 1989): 21-24, and p. 33.

Waste, Robert J., "Public Administration in China: Impressions of Some of the Changes Since the Cultural Revolution," *Administration and Society* (March 1986).

Waste, Robert J., and Glen W. Sparrow, "Democracy Through the Mail: A Call for Municipal Mail Ballots," *Social Policy* (Fall 1985): 58-59.

Waste, Robert J., "The Early Years in the Life Cycle of a City Council: A Downsian Analysis," *Urban Studies* (1983) 20: 73-81.