

## VISIONARIES HONOREE

### MAYOR JAMES BUTTS



A true steward for the city of Inglewood, **Mayor James Butts** (LLA '01), whose vision and operations management expertise led Inglewood from the brink of impending bankruptcy, to stability, then on the road toward prosperity, is this year's Public Sector Leader of the Year. His accomplishments in this role include reviving the \$2 billion mixed-use Hollywood Park Tomorrow project and facilitating a joint venture between Kroenke Group and Hollywood Park Land Development, Inc. The partnership aims to add a \$1.8 billion 80,000-seat NFL-specified stadium and 6,000-seat performing arts venue to the plan. Mayor Butts also pushed for a revitalization of Market Street that will ultimately result in a \$100 million-plus makeover of Inglewood's downtown area, and secured \$75 million in grant funds from the Federal Aviation Administration and the Los Angeles World Airports, which led to more than 2,000 Inglewood homes being sound insulated in the two years since he resurrected the failed program.

Mayor Butts has more than 42 years of public safety and municipal government experience, including 19 years with the Inglewood Police Department rising to the rank of Deputy Chief, 15 years as Santa Monica Police Chief and 5 years as an assistant general manager for the Los Angeles World Airport system in charge of Public Safety and Counter-Terrorism.

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Other Visionaries honorees this year are: **Julia Gouw**, president, COO and board member of East West Bank, *Southern California Leader of the Year*; **Danielle Brazell** (LLA '10), general manager, Department of Cultural Affairs, City of Los Angeles, *Alum of the Year*; and **Jake Wood**, CEO & co-founder, Team Rubicon, *Social Entrepreneur of the Year*.