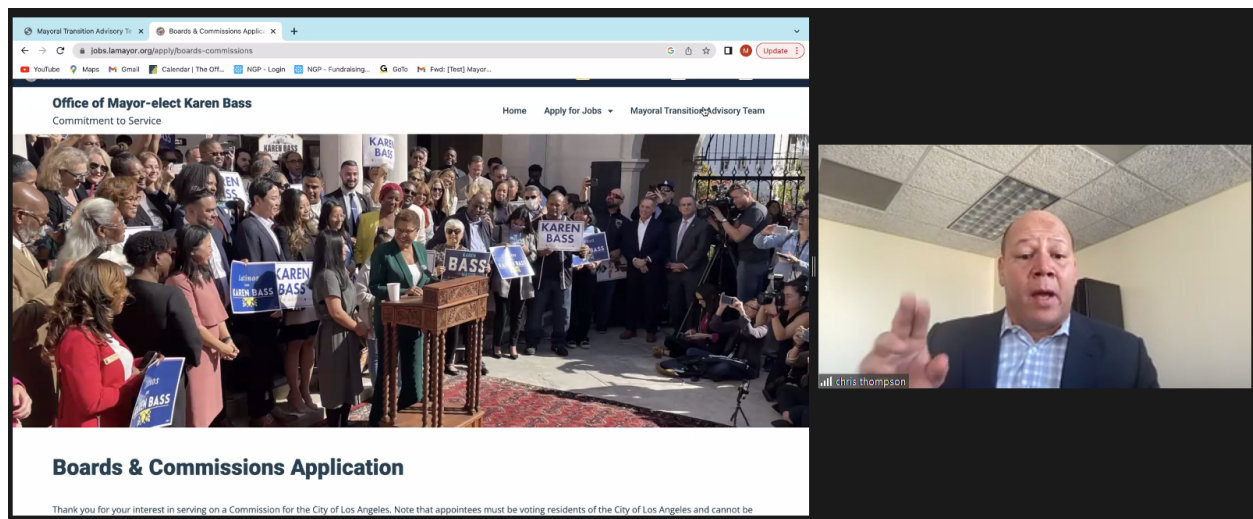




The Valley Economic Alliance “In the Know” December, 2022

Mayor Karen Bass Engages The Alliance



Mayor Bass is engaging The Alliance from the start of her administration, as evidenced by our participation in two significant convenings this past month.

On December 1, Alliance President & CEO Sonya Blake joined Mayor Karen Bass, U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Administrator Isabel Guzman, and about 30 business leaders at City Hall’s Tom Bradley Auditorium to strategize business growth policies for a thriving economy. Sonya advocated for equitable economic development of the San Fernando Valley region, including the need for a team within the Mayor’s Office to expedite development permits and support business attraction and retention.

In addition, Sonya has been appointed to participate as a member of Mayor Bass’ Transition Team and attended the first meeting last Friday with Mayor Bass, Chris Thompson (her Chief of Staff, pictured above), and the Transition Team Co-Chairs, including Delores Huerta, Monica Lozano, and Steve Soboroff. With this appointment, Sonya joins over 100 business, union, and community representatives such as former Governor Gray Davis and former Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa to assist the Mayor to recruit talent for key positions within her administration, to include her

office, department staff, and commissioners. In addition, the Transition Team will provide insights on policy solutions in six top priority areas including, Homelessness, Business Development, Public Safety, Environment and Sustainability, Affordability & Good Jobs, and Transportation.

To join in the conversation with policy proposals or personnel recommendations for Mayor Bass, please email Sonya at sblake@economicalliance.org.