

Greetings friends,

It is safe to say that no one could have predicted how 2020 would transpire. But here we are, grappling with a world-wide pandemic that has influenced every facet of our daily lives and sadly, we are still guessing about what the future holds and debating the competing views related to restoring the economy and protecting public health.

The Association is uniquely aware of the challenges that local jurisdictions are facing during these unsettling times; from the reality of an eroding tax-base to the calls to reform public safety, cities are enmeshed in some of the most difficult policy issues they have confronted in decades.



Which is why ACC-OC and its work are more important than ever. Collaboration between Orange County cities and other public agencies will be critical in the coming months and years. ACC-OC has worked diligently over the course of the last decade to be a trusted educational resource and a forum for both the free-form exchange of ideas and carefully structured development of best practices for addressing the nettlesome policy issues cities face.

We are more committed than ever to providing true value to our members and we are working hard to provide educational opportunities - at low, or no-cost - to our members. We are advocating for policies that protect local control and ensure that cities have maximum discretion when it comes to the decisions that impact their residents, employees and businesses.

On September 14, we will be hosting a Municipal Issues Summit with three panel presentations on topics we believe you will find relevant and timely. You are encouraged to register and may choose to attend in-person or virtually. We will be hearing from Sheriff Don Barnes and other City Police Chiefs on the changing face of public safety. Larry Kosmont and Ken Hira will provide a thought-provoking presentation on Economic Development Re-imagined that will inspire new ways of thinking about our communities. Lastly, there will be a panel presentation on the big issues and challenges for the water industry.

2020 hasn't been what any of us expected but it has provided us with an opportunity to learn new ways to accomplish our work, to collaborate with one another, to support one another and because of that, I believe we will come back better, stronger and more united. ACC-OC is committed to it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bruce E. Channing". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "C" at the end.

Bruce E. Channing  
Executive Director