

James Earp, Commissioner

Jim Earp is Executive Director of the California Alliance for Jobs, a business-labor partnership that represents more than 1,700 contractors in the heavy construction industry and the 80,000 union members they employ throughout northern and central California.

In February 2007, Earp received an appointment from Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to serve on the California Transportation Commission, the agency responsible for overseeing and allocating funding for the state's transportation program. His four-year appointment became effective March 1, 2007. He was reappointed in December 2011 to another four-year term.

Earp was hired to direct the California Alliance for Jobs in 1998 after serving as a Board Member since the organization's inception in 1994. Under his leadership, the Alliance has become a strong advocate for transportation investment, solving the state's housing shortage, meeting California's water needs and other issues that impact California's economy and the construction industry.

The California Alliance for Jobs has become a major political force for increasing transportation investment in California. The Alliance was a leading supporter in the successful 2002 campaign to pass Proposition 42, which dedicated the state sales tax on gasoline to transportation projects.

In 2006, Earp launched an initiative campaign to increase protection for Prop. 42 funding. At the same time, he worked closely with the Governor's administration and legislative leaders to craft the historic bipartisan legislation that became Propositions 1A through 1E, which created \$37 billion in infrastructure bonds and dedicated \$1.5 billion a year in gasoline sales tax revenue to transportation. Earp subsequently chaired the Yes on 1A-1E campaign, which was successful in passing all five measures in November 2006. In 2008, Earp also successfully chaired the \$10 billion High-Speed Rail Bond Campaign.

Under Earp's leadership, the California Alliance for Jobs has also played a critical role in helping to pass more than \$15 billion in transportation sales tax funding for Northern California counties.

Prior to 1998, Earp was employed by the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 3, where he served as Political and Public Affairs Director. He was also managing editor of Engineers News, the most award-winning building trades publication in the United States. He graduated cum laude from Brigham Young University in 1975 with a B.A. in English Literature and a minor in Journalism. Earp lives in Roseville, CA with his wife of 33 years, Susan. They have four children and (to date) six grandchildren.