



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact: Lisa Woolery
(714) 573-3330
lwoolery@tustinca.org

Date: Tuesday, December 2, 2008

NEW COUNCIL TO PRESIDE OVER CITY

Mayor Amante wins second term; newcomers Deborah Gavello and John Nielsen replace termed-out Council Members Lou Bone and Tony Kawashima.

TUSTIN, Calif. – This evening, at its regularly scheduled council meeting, Tustin City Council will reorganize, welcoming two new members and saying good-bye to two others. Last November, Mayor Jerry Amante won re-election to the council to serve his second term, and Deborah Gavello and John Nielsen were elected to replace termed-out Council Members Lou Bone and Tony Kawashima. In addition, the new council will elect a new mayor and mayor pro tem. Committee assignments will be assigned by the new mayor. Council Members from Tustin serve on the following committees to represent both the City and residents of Tustin:

- Foothill/Eastern Transportation Corridor Agency
- Growth Management Areas
- Newport Bay Watershed Executive Committee
- Orange County Council of Governments
- Orange County Fire Authority
- Orange County Library Board
- Orange County Sanitation District
- Orange County Vector Control

City of Tustin 300 Centennial Way, Tustin, CA 92780

Page 1 of 5



TUSTIN



- Santa Ana/Tustin Joint Powers Agency
- Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency
- Senior Fund Board of Directors
- Southern California Association of Governments
- Tustin Pride Committee
- Tustin Unified School District Liaison
- Water Advisory Committee of Orange County.

Mayor Amante, the top vote getter on November 4th will serve his second and last term on the Tustin City Council. “Serving the people of Tustin in my first term was an opportunity of a lifetime; I am excited to see what work can be achieved for the people of Tustin in my second term. I have focused many of my efforts on infrastructure, particularly traffic flow through the City,” said Jerry Amante. “Leadership in the transportation area is most critical to our City. Traffic is a quality of life issue for Tustin and we need to work hard to ensure we are able to travel in and around Tustin. I am proud of my work in opening up capacity on our arterial roadways and look forward to seeing significantly quicker trips through town on Tustin Ranch Road when it extends all the way from Tustin Ranch to Irvine.”

A 21 year resident of Tustin, Amante has spent his last four years serving the City on a variety of transportation positions including Director of the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) where he serves as Vice Chair of its Finance and Administration Committee and as a member of the Regional Planning and Highways Committee, the State Route 91 Advisory Committee, the Transportation 2020

TUSTIN



Committee, and the South Orange County Major Improvement Study Committee. He is Chair of the Central County Major Investment Study. He also serves as Chair of the Transportation Corridor System Board of Directors and as the Chair of the Foothill/Eastern Transportation Corridor Agency (TCA) where he serves on its Finance and Operations Committee and as a member of its Legislative Committee. He also serves as a member of TCA's Joint Ad Hoc Financial Options Committee made up of members of the Boards of Directors from each of the toll road agencies. "California is in the world's top ten largest economies. All of Orange County benefits from a proactive leader, Tustin in particular. In order for us to drive the economy in and to prosperity, we must make sure goods and people can be moved throughout our region. That is what I work for every day," Mayor Amante added.

During his second term, Mayor Amante plans to continue his focus on infrastructure and transportation and will continue to find ways to finance new projects, particularly new infrastructure projects that will act as a stimulus to the economy. Mayor Amante will continue to work toward the Quiet Zone at Edinger near Tustin Meadows, completing the Tustin Ranch Road extension and finding financing solutions for capacity driven projects such as the Newport Avenue Extension. He will also focus on continuing the fiscal conservative position of the City's budget, enhancing Tustin by focusing on quality of life issues, and continuing to support Tustin's excellent police force.

Council Member-elect Deborah Gavello won approximately 19% of the vote in Tustin, giving her the opportunity to serve on the Tustin

TUSTIN



City Council. A ten-year resident of Tustin, Gavello visited voters at their homes everyday during the campaign. “Tustin is a safe, beautiful and charming town filled with much history and heritage. After knocking on over 10,000 voters doors and meeting thousands of people, and listening to them talk about their desires and concerns during the campaign, I have a pretty clear idea of what the people of Tustin want,” said Councilwoman-elect Deborah Gavello. “I plan to bridge the gaps and build community by working honestly with every person and constituency group in town. I want to work with all residents. I have the time and energy to devote to Tustin and I believe in giving back to my community by serving.”

Gavello, a small business owner and banking consultant likes solving complex and difficult problems. She intends to maintain “green” office hours, developing a schedule where citizens can discuss issues with her at local parks while sitting and talking or walking and talking. Gavello plans to use her business skills to help the City during these difficult economic times, both by working to attract new businesses to Tustin and concentrating on the City’s budget.

“The City needs people of different backgrounds giving decisions a well-rounded vetting process. I plan to use my sales, marketing, leadership and management skills to provide positive leadership in Tustin.”

Councilman-elect John Nielsen raised his children in the City and has spent his adult years volunteering in many civic and community organizations such as the boy scouts, coaching various sports, Tustin

TUSTIN



Chamber, Orange County Transportation Authority, and school parent support groups.

Nielsen says, “I have spent the last 22 years helping to maintain the small town ambiance and strong sense of community that we enjoy in Tustin. Although we are surrounded by millions of people, in a suburb that is rapidly urbanizing, I am committed to keeping Tustin the hometown where I bought a house 22 years ago. We have the unique opportunity to keep the magic of a small town while enjoying big city amenities.”

Nielsen’s goals are to provide the city with a fiscally solvent and manageable budget during these economic hard times, promote public safety and keep them well funded and look at ways to promote business and local jobs in Tustin.