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CBPA WELCOMES FIRST NEW LEADER IN 37 YEARS
Matthew Hargrove Succeeds Rex S. Hime as President & CEO

(SACRAMENTO, CA) – Earlier this month, [Matthew Hargrove](#) stepped into his new role as President & CEO of California Business Properties Association (CBPA) following the [retirement of Rex S. Hime](#). Hargrove was tapped to lead the organization by its board of directors in December 2021.

Hargrove has worked in and around the California State Capitol since 1992 and previously served as CBPA’s second in command for 15 years.

As CBPA’s Sr. VP for Governmental Affairs, Hargrove worked closely with Hime and managed all day-to-day aspects of the organization’s legislative and political issues in the California State Capitol as well as responding to the state and federal regulatory issues affecting the commercial real estate industry. He also managed CBPA’s external communication and legislative grassroots advocacy programs.

Prior to CBPA Hargrove led the State Government Relations and Advocacy efforts at UC Davis, his *alma mater*, after working for Assemblymember Brooks Firestone in several policy and political capacities in the mid-1990s.

Melissa Stevens, Rex W. Hime and Crystal Whitfield continue to fill-out the staff at CBPA.

[Melissa M. Stevens](#) serves as the Chief Operating Officer (COO) for California Business Properties Association. As COO, she is responsible for operational, financial, and administrative policies and procedures for CBPA.

[Rex W. Hime](#) serves as the Vice President of Strategic Communications for California Business Properties Association. Hime manages all aspects of internal and external communication to advance organization and industry policy priorities.

[Crystal Whitfield](#) has served as Executive Assistant at California Business Properties since 2015. Whitfield manages scheduling, office administration and is the first point of contact for the office of California Business Properties Association.

[Rex S. Hime](#) remains involved with CBPA as a Senior Advisor as he steps away from the day-to-day operations after 37 years of service.

As we work through this transition, COVID, and a gubernatorial election year heats up, CBPA will be looking for opportunities to engage with policymakers in a positive manner that will give our members insight and information and provide an edge to thrive in the quickly changing and challenging California business environment.

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Celebrating 50 Years of Service in 2022! Established in 1972, CBPA proudly serves as the legislative and regulatory advocate for property owners, tenants, developers, retailers, contractors, land use attorneys, brokers, and other professionals in the commercial real estate industry representing their legislative and regulatory interests in California’s Capital and in Washington, D.C.

CBPA is the largest commercial real estate consortium with over 10,000 industry members and is the designated legislative advocate for [ICSC](#), the California Chapters of the Commercial Real Estate Development Association ([NAIOP Cal](#)), the Building Owners and Managers Association of California ([BOMA Cal](#)), the Retail Industry Leaders Association ([RILA](#)), and the Association of Commercial Real Estate – Northern and Southern California ([ACRE](#)), and [AIR CRE](#).