

Alex Gonzalez

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Alex Gonzalez has been employed with the City of Covina since July 2006. As a Senior Management Analyst he is responsible for the management of the City of Covina Transportation Division. Prior to his employment with the City of Covina, Alex was employed as a manager in the restaurant industry with Mimi's Café and Coco's restaurants in the cities of Monrovia, Arcadia, City of Industry, Covina, and Los Angeles. Alex takes pride in the customer service, business and management skills that he learned in the private sector and applies in the public sector daily.

Alex is a first generation American who was born in the Silver Lake area of Los Angeles and raised by a single mother in Monterey Park. Alex attended Schurr High School in Montebello and was admitted to the University of Southern California. After leaving the University of Southern California in his junior year short of a degree, Alex took a job as a dishwasher at a country club to support his golf habit and worked his way up through the ranks as a busboy and food server before becoming a restaurant general manager. Alex returned to school as a full-time business administration student at Cal State LA in 2004 and completed his bachelor's degree in political science in 2005 at the University of Southern California while still remaining employed full-time as a restaurant manager. Alex was admitted to the Masters of Public Administration program at Cal Poly Pomona in 2006 and focused his work in the MPA program on quantitative analysis, especially the relationship between direct democracy and public policy.

In 2006 Alex received the Nesvold Award for best graduate paper from the Social Science Research and Instructional Council of the California State University System for a 2006 statistical study on variations in voting behavior due to attendance at religious services. In January 2007 he completed a study that measured the voter mobilization effects of ballot propositions related to moral issues. In March 2007 Alex organized and led an exit poll to gauge the effectiveness of the City of Covina's outreach to residents on a utility user's tax ballot measure.

Alex received his MPA from Cal Poly Pomona in 2008 and graduated as a member of Pi Alpha Alpha, the national public administration honor society. Alex's MPA thesis examined the effects of direct democracy at the local government level, specifically tax and expenditure limitations enacted by voters from 1978 to 2005, on municipal services and operations for 48 communities in Los Angeles County, California.

Alex is a resident of Altadena, where he lives with his wife of eleven years, Anne Reid. Anne is a librarian completing her doctoral dissertation in history at USC with a focus on colonial California history, religion, and frontier medicine. Anne previously was the project leader for the Huntington Library's Early California Population Project.