

OPINION • Editorial

Kelly Seyarto for Assembly District 67



(File Photo)

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PUBLISHED: September 4, 2020 at 5:45 p.m. | UPDATED:

September 24, 2020 at 10:27 a.m.

A state in fiscal distress and growing, costly infrastructural and social problems needs serious attention from its lawmakers, something not always on display in Sacramento. The Legislature would benefit from leadership by people with both governmental experience and sound business sense. That's why we favor Kelly Seyarto in Assembly District 67.

Seyarto has many years of experience as a council member and as mayor of Murrieta. His educational background includes a masters degree in public administration and he spent 35 years working in fire departments in Inglewood, La Verne and Los Angeles County, retiring as a battalion chief.

His background and experience make Seyarto well-suited to succeed Melissa Melendez, who has been a strong advocate for constituents in the 67th (she is seeking a Senate seat in this election).

Among Seyarto's top issues are transportation, water resources and protecting Proposition 13, the property-tax ballot measure that has helped middle-income Californians stay in their homes. Seyarto rightly perceives that some in Sacramento are hoping to undermine Prop. 13, chiefly through this year's "split roll" initiative, Proposition 15, which voters ought to reject.

Past membership on the Riverside County Transportation Commission has helped Seyarto gain an understanding of the region's transportation needs and as an Assembly member he can be a needed voice of reason on the issue. Neglecting roads, as California has been doing, is a net drag on the state's economy.

Speaking of the economy, Seyarto believes the No. 1 priority facing lawmakers is recovery from the months-long lockdown government has imposed on Californians. The job won't be easy because tax receipts have been falling during the lockdown – disturbing news for a state government that has a spending problem. But Seyarto and other legislators with experience at the local level can help Sacramento focus on real needs.

Seyarto also wants to see legislation addressing loss mitigation, fire suppression and homelessness. For his stands on key issues, Seyarto is the best candidate to serve Assembly District 67.

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