

# **Cultivating Livable Communities: Environment, Economy, and Equity**

**March 19, 2008  
Los Angeles Marriott Downtown**

**Honorable Warren Furutani, California State Assembly Member  
Michael Alexander, Executive and Artistic Director of Grand Performances  
Dr. Daniel Flaming, President of Economic Roundtable  
Moderator: Toni Guinyard, freelance reporter**

The panelists addressed the idea of livable communities and the parallel connection to quality of life, democracy and prosperity. Each panelist provided a working definition of livable communities with the common theme referring to quality of life. Honorable Furutani spoke to the existing State budget deficit and the potential opportunity to define a plausible and sustainable livable community via dialogue with community members. Mr. Flaming defined a livable community as an environment where children can thrive via adequate distribution of resources. Mr. Alexander proposed that the Arts provide a vehicle for the socio-cultural and political growth of communities.