

# **Civil Rights**

Timeline of Office Name Change

### 2008

California Business, Housing and Transportation (BTH) Agency Secretary leads a movement to capture the Office of Civil Rights'small business activities and expanded role in economic development.

# 2008

Assistant Deputy of BTH, an advocate for economic development, starts working and researches Caltrans' Civil Rights Small Business program.

### 2008

Caltrans' DBE
Program Manager
acknowledges the
disconnect between
what civil rights
symbolizes and the
dramatic struggle
the civil rights
movement played in
history, and the
perception of
business entities as
primarily a
capitalist endeavor.

# 2009

California
Business, Housing
and Transportation
Agency Secretary
promotes changing
the office name
from the Caltrans
Office of Civil
Rights, to the
Office of Business
and Economic
Opportunity
(OBEO).

# 2010

Caltrans Acting
Director states
OBEO was a truer
expression of the
office's broadened
scope. The Caltrans
Office of Civil Rights
becomes the Office
of Business and
Economic
Opportunity in
January 2010. Small
Business Council
opposes move.

OCR - Business Development



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# 2019

Toks Omishakin appointed Director of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in September.

#### 2019

Caltrans'Small
Business Council
members ask new
Caltrans Director at
November council
meeting if the name
of Office of Business
and Economic
Opportunity can
revert to "Office of
Civil Rights," in line
with other states and
U.S. Department of
Transportation.

### 2019

The return to the name Civil Rights is in recognition of the office's core function of advancing equality in contracting and procurement opportunity for all people, regardless of race, sex, age, disability, national origin, religion, or other certain characteristics.

### 2020

Caltrans Chief
Deputy Director
Jim Davis, on
behalf of Director
Toks Omishakin,
announces the
name change
during the Small
Business Council
meeting in San
Diego on
January 17,
2020.

# 2020

Caltrans Small
Business Council
members
instrumental in
getting the name
changed back to
Civil Rights: Zeke
Patton, Fred
Jordon, Eddie Lau,
Paul Guerrero,
Debbie Hunsaker.
Dr. M. Ajiake.

OCR - Business Development