



The City of



# Economic Development

MEETING NOTES



## Economic Activity

Wednesday, February 12, 2020, 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Diamond CoWork

5003 Imperial Ave., San Diego, CA 92113

## Meeting Notes

### In Attendance:

Collin Evenson – Department of Housing and Urban Development

Liliana Garcia-Rivera – Diamond Business Improvement District

Eric Henson – Office of Councilmember Montgomery

Carol Kim – San Diego Building Trades

Gary Knight – San Diego Futures Foundation

Jasmine Mallen - City of San Diego City Council Administration

Luis Ojeda – City of San Diego Economic Development Department

Bennett Peji – Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation

Satum Rash-Zeigler – San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council

Elizabeth Schott – Accion

Janay Wellington – KW Commercial

### Promise Zone Staff:

Connor Lareau – Research and Development AmeriCorps VISTA

Kelsey Baird - Research and Development AmeriCorps VISTA

Sean Karafin – Neighborhood Investment Manager

**Welcome and Introductions:** Working Group co-chairs Luis Ojeda and Gary Knight opened the meeting.

### **Presentation**

- Sasha Favelukis, co-founder of Co-Place, presented his organization's progress towards making a community focused space for growing businesses.
- Sasha hopes that Co-Place will give new businesses the opportunity to flourish in concrete, but temporary, retail spaces.

### **Media Discussion**

- The Jacobs Center is currently accepting applications for its third cohort of participants of its Connect All accelerator program.
- The Women's Business Center is hosting classes about starting new businesses.

### **Promise Zone Website Discussion**

- The Economic Development Department recently updated the Promise Zone website.
- The site will now include up to date events, meeting notes and agendas, and working group fact sheets.

### **All Partner Meeting Feedback**

- The Economic Development Department presented feedback from attendees at the all partner meeting, directed towards working group goals and priorities.
- These comments are important to consider as the working group examines its priorities and framework.
- Gary suggested having more information on entrepreneurial and education programs for the next all partners meeting.

### **Federal Grant Opportunities Updates**

- Our community liaisons at Housing and Urban Development have outlined some priority grants that may be of interest to partners within this working group.
- The Planning Program and Local Technical Assistance Program, Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs, HUBZone Program, and Section 4 Capacity Building Program are all grants related to economic activity.

### **Barrio Logan Career Pathways Expo Update**

- This event has been renamed to the Barrio Logan Career Pathways Expo.
- Lots of businesses have already expressed interest in participating.
- We are still looking for organizations to commit to bringing Opportunity Youth to the event.

- Due to additional time needed to confirm business participation, the working group decided to target late April or early May for the event.
- Promise Zone staff will send out a poll to determine the official name and date of the event.

### **Partner Announcements**

- Civic San Diego is likely changing their name soon.
- Civic San Diego is currently working with Access Youth Academy, and is aiming to assist local organizations with small scale loans.

### **Closing Discussion**

- Mission Driven Finance may be able to come in to present about opportunity zone funds for the next meeting.
- It was suggested to have a future meeting at the Jacobs Center Accelerator, where we could have an informational session on loans and investments.
- Access Youth Academy was mentioned as a potential new partner, as they help low to moderate income youth prepare for college and careers.

### **Next meeting**

Wednesday, March 11, 2020, 2:30-4:00 p.m.

Diamond CoWork, 5003 Imperial Ave., San Diego, CA 92113