

# Economic Development Strategic Plan for San Joaquin County

## First Quarter 2007 Update

The San Joaquin Partnership Board of Directors adopted the Economic Development Strategic Plan for San Joaquin County in January 2006. The San Joaquin Partnership undertook the implementation of the plan by first) broad dissemination of the plan and its recommendations and secondly) by the establishment of Stakeholder groups – Community Partners.

The Community Partners are: Business Community, Chambers and Allied Organizations, Education and Workforce, Public Agencies and Entrepreneurship.

The groups consist of both public and private organizations and individuals related to specific areas of recommendations and implementation.

The Community Partners began their meetings in August of 2006. Most have met on a monthly basis since then.

**Business Community** – Phil Pennino of PG& E was elected Chair.

### **Target Recommendations:**

- Permitting and Processing
- Business and Industrial Park Inventory
- Electrical Utility Capacity
- Municipal Infrastructure, Sanitary Sewer, Water and Stormwater

### **Results:**

- A sub committee has been formed to review/survey local permitting and processing as compared with other communities such as Newark, San Jose and Sacramento.
- A business and industrial park inventory has been prepared by the San Joaquin Partnership.
- The three local electrical utility providers – Lodi Electric, MID and PG & E have given presentations on their economic development packages and incentives.

***NEXT MEETING DATE: April 18, 8:15 AM at the offices of the San Joaquin Partnership***

**Chambers and Allied Organizations** – Doug Wilhoit, Stockton Chamber of Commerce, was elected Chair.

**Target Recommendations:**

- Tourism
- Business Retention and Expansion
- Permitting and Processing

**Results:**

- A subcommittee has been formed to work on cross marketing events and activities throughout the county.
- A Visitors Guide has been produced by the Stockton Chamber but it includes information on other communities. Plans for an expanded 2008 guide are underway.
- The Downtown Stockton Alliance and Manteca Visitors Bureau are proceeding with plans to hire Roger Brooks, a “branding” and marketing expert.
- Current programs for business retention and expansion are being reviewed.

***NEXT MEETING DATE: May 9, 9:00 AM at the offices of the Downtown Stockton Alliance***

**Education and Workforce** – Mick Founts, San Joaquin County Office of Education, was elected Chair.

**Target Recommendations:**

- Development and Enhancement of Career Path/Vocational Education
- Make San Joaquin County high School Leading Edge
- Improve Readiness of Public School Students
- Support Delta College Multi-Campus Strategy
- Review Linkage between Education and Target Industry Jobs

**Results:**

- Subcommittees have been formed to work on the above recommendations
- Delta College has applied for a Tech Prep grant that would build career pathways in health care, agri-business, manufacturing and environmental technology.
- Pressure is being put on ROP programs for standardization.
- Information is being gathered for an employer’s guide and a brochure on why hiring interns can benefit your business.
- The Stockton airport has agreed to house an aviation/automotive charter school and it has been approved by the County Board of Education. It is anticipated to start in the fall with 40 students.

***NEXT MEETING DATE: April 24, 9:00 AM at the offices of the San Joaquin Partnership***

## **Public Agencies**

### **Target Recommendations:**

- Support and Protect Key Development Projects
- Review Regional Infrastructure Issues
- Regional Transportation

### **Results:**

- A White Paper is being prepared on five key issues:
  1. Need to protect Economic Development within the county and each community
  2. Land use – pending amendments to habitat plan, linkage to agriculture preservation program and fees, Airport Master Plan and protection.
  3. Local infrastructure issues: transportation, wastewater and potable water. The need to have cooperation within the County as to shared facilities.
  4. Regional infrastructure issues – transportation.
  5. Countywide tourism programs and their financing.

***NEXT MEETING DATE: TBD***

## **Entrepreneurship** – Mark Plovnick of the University of the Pacific was elected Chair.

### **Target Recommendations:**

- Venture Capitol Network
- Angel Network
- Technology Incubators

### **Results:**

- The targeted monetary goal has been reached for the Venture Capital/Angel Network program in conjunction with Golden Capital. The County and most of the cities have agreed to participate. Several angel investors have offered to participate.
- A conference on entrepreneurship is scheduled for June 21<sup>st</sup> at the University of the Pacific.
- University of the Pacific has committed to pursuing an incubator program on Health Care.

***NEXT MEETING DATE: April 17, 1:30 PM at the offices of the San Joaquin Partnership***