



LOS ANGELES COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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Los Angeles County Economic Development Corp. Calls on State Lawmakers to Lead Strategic Plan Effort to Create Jobs

LAEDC delivers five-year 2010-2014 L.A. County Strategic Plan for Economic Development to legislative leaders as model for economic development priorities in the state

Sacramento, CA— Today, the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) hand-delivered to every California State Assembly Member and Senator copies of this week's Los Angeles Business Journal featuring an insert of Los Angeles County's first-ever consensus, strategic plan for economic development and an op-ed (page 49) by LAEDC President and CEO Bill Allen calling for California policymakers to lead an effort to engage stakeholders from each of the state's economic regions to coalesce around shared strategies to stimulate economic recovery and serve as a framework for long-term economic growth.

With Legislative "Jobs Packages" being introduced almost daily in Sacramento, the LAEDC believes L.A. County's Strategic Plan for Economic Development can serve as model for the state's economic development efforts. The economic development organization believes that Los Angeles County's strategic planning process demonstrates what can be accomplished when a diverse group of stakeholders comes together to develop and, ultimately, implement a shared vision for growing the economic pie and creating jobs.

"California is increasingly viewed as a place with an environment that is unwelcoming to businesses, and as a consequence, the jobs – and tax revenue – businesses create," said LAEDC President and CEO Bill Allen. "Using a process similar to the very public, consensus-driven one we used here in L.A., state policymakers must lead an effort to develop a blueprint for increasing business development opportunities, creating more well-paying jobs and generating adequate funding for essential state services."

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Public input was critical to the L.A. County plan's development. Over the past year, the LAEDC engaged and solicited input from more than 1,000 stakeholders in more than two dozen public forums that brought together leaders from the public, private, business, government, labor, education, environmental, and community-based organizations. Unanimously adopted by the L.A. County Board of Supervisors on December 22nd, the L.A. County plan includes 52 specific strategies designed to achieve five core aspirational goals critical to ensuring economic success: **1) Preparing an educated workforce, 2) Creating a business-friendly environment, 3) Enhancing quality of life, 4) Implementing smart land use and 5) Creating 21st century infrastructure.** The LAEDC is now securing champions to help lead the implementation of the L.A. County plan.

The LAEDC's experts, as well as the elected and community leaders that helped to develop the L.A. plan, stand ready to work with the state policymakers to ensure that the legislature's focus on job creation translate into broad-based, long-term economic growth.

About LAEDC (www.LAEDC.org)

The Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC), the region's premier economic development organization, is a private, non-profit organization established in 1981. Its mission is to attract, retain, and grow businesses and jobs for the regions of Los Angeles County. Since 1996, the LAEDC has helped retain or create more than 157,000 jobs, providing \$7.5 billion dollars in annual economic impact and more than \$128 million dollars in annual tax revenue to support local government and schools.

About L.A. County's Strategic Plan for Economic Development: www.LACountyStrategicPlan.com

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