



LOS ANGELES COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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## **Sen. Maldonado Urges Colleagues to Study L.A. County Plan for Economic Development and Engage in Similar Regional Efforts**

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*Senator extols LAEDC for taking proactive role in the economic future of L.A. County*

**Sacramento, CA—** Today, Senator Abel Maldonado (R-Santa Maria) issued a strong statement urging his colleagues in the California State Legislature to read the Los Angeles County Strategic Plan for Economic Development; share it with their local economic development entities; and engage in similar efforts in their own regions. The five-year L.A. County Strategic Plan for Economic Development, which was spearheaded by the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) and unanimously adopted by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on December 22<sup>nd</sup>, identifies 12 objectives and 52 strategies designed to strengthen the economy, improve the environment and invigorate communities.

Senator Maldonado's call to action comes on the heels of his meeting with the LAEDC to develop strategies to spur job creation and grow the economy. Together, the LAEDC and Senator Maldonado agreed to work in collaboration to make economic development a state priority this year.

"The LAEDC and I are working on tangible solutions to many of our state's economic problems," said Maldonado in his written statement. "The LAEDC is taking it upon themselves to move the conversation forward," Maldonado added. "Clearly, the LAEDC is taking a proactive role in the future economic solvency of the Los Angeles region."

Two weeks ago, the LAEDC hand-delivered to each member of the California Legislature copies of the February 15<sup>th</sup> edition of the Los Angeles Business Journal featuring an insert of the Strategic Plan and an op-ed 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

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coalesce around shared strategies to stimulate economic recovery and serve as a framework for long-term economic growth.

“The risks associated with not having a proactive strategic plan for economic development are extremely great – including disinvestment, reduced quality of life and a degrading environment that impairs job growth, business attraction and retention,” said LAEDC President and CEO Bill Allen. “So, we are extremely pleased to have Senator Maldonado’s strong support and determined leadership on moving forward on such a region-by-region strategic planning effort using a process similar to the very public, consensus-driven one we used here in L.A.”

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. Now in the implementation phase, the LAEDC has identified specific “Champions” to help lead this movement and carry out the strategies designed to achieve the L.A. County plan’s five overarching goals: **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.**

About L.A. County’s Strategic Plan for Economic Development: [www.LACountyStrategicPlan.com](http://www.LACountyStrategicPlan.com)

#### **About LAEDC ([www.LAEDC.org](http://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.

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