



June 8, 2012

Supervisor Doreen Farr, Chair  
Supervisor Salud Carbajal, Vice Chair  
Supervisor Joni Gray  
Supervisor Janet Wolf  
Supervisor Steve Lavagino

Honorable Supervisors:

We, like you, strive to serve the public to the best of our abilities every day. We serve the County as nurses, office workers, rangers, maintenance workers, election assistants, caseworkers, x-ray techs, mental health workers, appraisers, accounting assistants, system analysts and in many other jobs. Like you, we are dedicated to quality public service.

The week of June 11, 2012 you will be determining the County budget for fiscal year 2012 / 2013 which is proposed to reduce front line staff for the 4<sup>th</sup> year in a row and further erode the services that you were elected to protect and provide. Due to my requirement to be in Sacramento on Monday June 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, I hope that you accept this letter as my comments / concerns over the impacts of the proposed budget for various departments that may be affected by your decision to approve this proposed budget.

Whereas many of the proposed changes impact vacant unfilled positions, several do not. Impacts to filled positions in Public Health, Community Services and ADMHS will continue to increase workload on remaining frontline staff, which is already burdened with increase need for service and reduced resources. These proposed reductions will actually result in higher cost due to increased requirements to farm out work, increased Workers Comp claims and uncontrolled further erosion of existing infrastructure requiring major attention / cost in the future.

For example, Parks has proposed reduction of several positions that will not only effect several long term employees, but result in increase cost by existing vendors; increases of the need to hire further temp employees (current budget proposal has a increase of \$300,000 for additional temp services, which could be used to reduce displacement of existing employees); reduction of seasoned veterans who are trained and has experience with current equipment and processes; and reduction in timelines for repair of facilities and equipment.

Reduction of one of two of the Water / Sewer Operators at Cachuma Lake will increase the cost to the County by an existing contractor who already charges the County over \$57,000 a year to back-up the 2 operators assigned to the Lake on weekends, vacations and holidays. Not only would the current cost pay for another position, but by further reducing the staff to only one operator there will be increase cost from the vendor and potential of fines from inadequate staffing by licensed knowledgeable professionals.

Reduction of the only Welder / Mechanic position in Parks for both north and south County. The position is centrally located at Cachuma Lake; the loss of this position would have drastic impacts. As a parks dept we have thousands of acres to mow, weed, prune, landscape and maintain. We have many gas, diesel and electric powered tools we use every day to complete these jobs. Most of our equipment is old do to the lack of funds to purchase new. As such we have a high rate of repair on the mowers and other high use equipment. We rely heavily on our mechanic to keep equipment moving. We have many hosts and seasonal employees that check in with

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this position daily to keep some of the smaller equipment operating. Having this position daily to keep some of the smaller equipment operating. Having to contract out these repairs would be much cost and time prohibitive. He is also responsible for the maintenance on our boats at the lake this includes to two emergency response patrol boats, the tour boat and a couple of work boats. Again having someone on site greatly reduces the amount of down time for these important boats. He is also responsible for the repair and fabrication of all steel items in our parks, such as gates, fire pits well over 600 of them. The loss of this position could really affect the safety and appearance of our parks. With the weed and lawn mowers down for extended periods we could be creating fire hazards and other problems. The patrol boats are equally important with the need for emergency access to kayakers or boaters. We estimate that if this position is laid off there would be an increase in cost of 2 to 3 times this individual's salary, which is not accounted for in the proposed budget.

Reduction of County Plumbers in the Parks Department will result in huge impacts on the County and remaining staff. Currently they are responsible for restrooms that work, drinking water, waste water, and repair and operations of our 3 public pools.

The following is a list of responsibilities which will be impacted and if the Board approves the proposed budget will cost substantially more money to maintain by an outside vendor:

- Operates and maintains multiple domestic water systems. Including three wells and all the chlorine injection systems variable speed drives and equipment used on them.
- Maintains and monitors nearly a dozen leach fields requiring reporting to the state.
- Operates and maintains the irrigation systems for all parks and open spaces. And monitors systems to insure best water usage.
- Tests and records the testing of over 70 backflow devices throughout the dept.
- Maintains the Waller pond and pumps associated with them.
- Maintains the Betteravia government center ponds.
- Maintains and repairs no less than 5 lift stations for sanitary sewer operations.
- Maintains and repairs all restroom facilities.
- Maintains and repairs all hose bibs and drinking fountains in all parks and open spaces.
- Find and repairs leaks to keep water costs down.
- Our plumber maintains a grade one water license required by the state.
- Maintains a class A driver's license for transporting equipment.
- Maintains certification for backflow testing as required by the state.
- Maintains CPO certification for pool operations

The purpose of combining Parks within Community Services Department was to reduce overhead and allow for more frontline staff. Apparently no one told administration because there has only been a reduction of two ½ time positions in management and several reductions in front line staff through attrition and now the department is recommending additional cuts of filled positions which will result in additional cost, reduced service levels and impacts on long term loyal employees.

For the past 4 years Local 620 members working for the County has sacrificed our wages and benefits to balance the budget of Santa Barbara County, protect our members jobs and provide quality service to the public. Instead of laying-off trained employees, we should be hiring additional much needed staff to fill vacant positions. Instead of balancing the budget on employees we need to create revenue by various means such as incorporating minimal park fees to offset cost, increasing the utilization of existing facilities for profit and seriously working with oil companies to expand offshore oil drilling which is taxable. We need to balance our budget with revenue and cost effective cuts, not just by slashing our lowest paid frontline staff and services.

Local 620 request that the Board of Supervisors reject all proposed departmental budgets that cuts frontline staff and send Department Heads back to work to develop a departmental budget that protects existing filled positions. Local 620 members have done our part, now it is time for the County Administration to do their part.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Corsaw, Executive Director





# SOLVANG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

P.O. Box 465 • Solvang, CA 93464 • (805) 688-0701  
web site: [www.solvangcc.com](http://www.solvangcc.com)

*Mission: Improve, promote, protect, defend and  
inform the business and professional community  
of Solvang and the greater Solvang area.*

June 5, 2012

Santa Barbara County  
Board of Supervisors  
105 East Anapamu Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

RE: Recommended Budget Fiscal Year 2012-2013  
Section D – Operating Budget, Community Services

Dear Santa Barbara County Supervisors,

The fiscal year 2012-2013 Recommended Budget offers the elimination of funding for local conference and visitors bureaus and the Film Commission as a means to reduce budgetary shortfalls. The Solvang Chamber of Commerce strongly urges the Santa Barbara County Supervisors not to adopt this portion of the Recommended Budget.

The Solvang Chamber of Commerce is a champion of business, providing advocacy, education and resources to the business community. The Solvang Chamber is an invaluable resource to its members and local residents as it serves as a central location for both groups to come together.

The Chamber strives to promote its membership in the local community. This year, the Solvang Chamber will provide its membership such an opportunity through a Health Expo and Design Expo slated for this summer and fall. Every member of the Solvang Chamber will have the opportunity to present their business to a large and diversified audience of local residents.

Additionally, the Solvang Chamber will provide practical and useful information to local businesses to help them thrive and grow in these tough economic times with a Business Expo set for June.

The Solvang Chamber operates on a limited budget and the elimination of funding from Santa Barbara County would impact its ability to sponsor events like those described above. More importantly, any decrease in funding will hurt the Chamber's membership by requiring the cessation of services, limiting operating hours and an overall reduction in services.

In these economic times, when businesses struggle to make a living, our County can little afford to stop investing in its business community. We strongly recommend that the County Supervisors do not eliminate funding for the conference and visitors bureaus or the Film Commission.

Respectively submitted,

  
Linda Marie Smith  
Executive Director

  
Lana Clark  
Co-President

  
Susan Williams  
Co-President

## Lee-Rodriguez, Nicole

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**From:** Cath Webb <cathwebb2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 05, 2012 11:24 AM  
**To:** SupervisorCarbajal; Wolf, Janet; Farr, Doreen; Lavagnino, Steve; Gray, Joni  
**Cc:** sbcob  
**Subject:** County Budget

**Categories:** Green Category

Dear Supervisors,

For over ten years I've hosted a fortnightly lunch meeting for advocates and service providers working with the homeless in our community. Based on what the people in the trenches of this work have told me meeting after meeting, I'm writing to urge you to restore the following services in your June budget hearings. Eliminating these valuable services, I believe, will lead to increased homelessness.

**PROPAY.** This program helps to keep many vulnerable folks in housing (Department: Treasurer-Tax Collector-Public Admin)

**VETERANS SERVICES.** Please do not reduce the staff size nor close the Santa Barbara and Lompoc offices.(Department: Treasurer-Tax Collector-Public Admin)

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION.** the loss of \$1 million allocated to over 50 nonprofits would be devastating. (Department: Community Services)

**HOMELESS-RELATED CONTRACTS.** This cut would potentially reduce the number of bed nights and supportive services available (Department: ADMHS & Community Services)

**BEDS IN ACUTE PSYCHIATRIC FACILITY** (Department: ADMHS & Community Services)

I realize that you face difficult decisions this budget season and I thank you for your service to our community.

Best wishes,

Cath Webb  
101 Mesa Lane,  
Santa Barbara, CA 93109

## Lee-Rodriguez, Nicole

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**From:** Debbie <davedebjalama@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 10, 2012 9:51 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Santa Barbara County Budget cuts/layoffs

Hello, my name is David Aho, Mechanic/Welder for the Santa Barbara County Parks dept, now part of Community Services Dept . I have been informed that my position as mechanic/welder is proposed to be cut and unfunded as part of the budget cuts proposed by the County CEO, Chandra Waller and my Department Heads. I was totally surprised and confused as to why mine and three other positions within our department were even being considered as part of these budget cuts. I always thought that low-man, or least important positions were considered first. I certainly do not wish to see anyone get laid-off, but these positions are needed and required daily. My job as mechanic/welder is utilized on a daily basis, and varies in need according to the types of repair of equipment, mowers, patrol boats, small engine repair of chain-saws, weedwhips, etc. My job is important not only in keeping the staff able to work in a timely manner , but most importantly, allowing them to work safely! We are already very short staffed, and have to count on seasonal part-time and even park hosts to get some off our work done. Due to the lack of full-time staff, proper training in the use of certain small gas power tools sometimes falls to the way side. Part of my job as the mechanic/welder, requires me to check-out the equipment each morning to ensure that it not only operates, but operates safely. I hate to see anyone get hurt, simply because I'm not there. I am responsible for the periodic maintenance and repair of all equipment, 3 patrol boats, the 35 passenger Cachuma Lake tour boat, and all other misc tools. Who is going to do this if my position is cut? I am the only mechanic/welder for the department. There used to be three, one each for north and south county, and one for Cachuma Lake. With that being said, I have to travel to south county maintenance yard one to two days a week as needed. If needed I may have to travel south to Rincon park, Manning park, Arroyo Burro park, Goleta Beach. In north county, I may be called to Jalama Beach, Waller park, Los Olivos park, even Cuyama to work on equipment or do a welding repair or fabricate a BBQ grill. The time spent in down time waiting for any type of repair being done by some other repair company like Toro, John Deere, will put a great impact on the staff. This in turn comes down to the public not having use of certain areas, or just having the park not up to the standards the paying public comes to expect. My job goes alot further than just changing oil or sharpening mower blades. The county is also proposing, and I quote,"develop a marketing and promotional plan to increase park visitorship and enhance appreciation of the county's park system through advertising, an online reservation system, and greater concessions to attract new visitors to county parks and increase their lengths of stay". The county has the money to do all these, but can't find the money to keep the exsisting work force that will play a big part in accomplishing these items. Our work force is vital to providing the hard work and care for the county parks system that the public has come to expect. That means all of us! There are other ways to save money during this budget cutting time, but not by cutting positions. Thank you, respectfully, David Aho

## Lee-Rodriguez, Nicole

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**From:** Emily Allen <emiallen@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 10, 2012 6:30 PM  
**To:** SupervisorCarbajal; Wolf, Janet; Farr, Doreen; Gray, Joni; Lavagnino, Steve  
**Cc:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Budget Hearings & Potential Service Level Impacts

RE: Budget Hearings & Potential Service Level Impacts

Dear Supervisors,

I hope you will restore funding for:

- Human Services Commission (Community Services)
- Veterans Service Representative (Treasurer-Tax Collector)
- Propay (Treasurer-Tax Collector)
- Contracts to homeless service providers (ADMHS & Community Services)
- Beds in acute psychiatric facilities (ADMHS)

These are all important pieces to preventing and reducing homelessness in Santa Barbara County. A June 7 Los Angeles Times article documented that providing **permanent housing with supportive services to the most vulnerable people who are homeless can save money**. ("Anti-homeless project saves L.A. County money, study finds" at <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2012/06/los-angeles-homeless-project-50-cost-savings.html>)

The 2012 United States Interagency Council on Homelessness report calls for the **"creation of comprehensive and seamless systems of care"** ("Searching Out Solutions: Constructive Alternatives to the Criminalization of Homelessness" at [http://www.usich.gov/issue/alternatives\\_to\\_criminalization](http://www.usich.gov/issue/alternatives_to_criminalization)).

Santa Barbara County is now on the verge of developing a system of care that can effectively prevent and end homelessness. Of course just throwing money at homeless services will not have the desired positive impact. But cutting services without thoughtful consideration of the negative impacts will be disastrous and costly.

1. Unanticipated property tax revenue from Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Funds should be directed at maintaining funding for the Human Services Commission and ProPay. The Board of Supervisors has previously restored funding to these programs and the programs should not be on the chopping block every year.
2. ADMHS should state on the record what portion of the contracts to homeless service providers can be covered by Mental Health Services Act funds so that the Supervisors know how much would be necessary to fully fund these programs.
3. If necessary reserves should be used to restore funding to the programs that provide services to veterans and the poorest and most vulnerable people in our County.

Previous County budgets have already cut these programs and services to a point where they can be cut no further.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Emily Allen

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Emily R. Allen  
Managing Attorney  
Homeless Education and Legal Project  
Legal Aid Foundation of Santa Barbara County  
805-403-5224 cell  
[emiallen@aol.com](mailto:emiallen@aol.com)

## Lee-Rodriguez, Nicole

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**From:** Petra Lowen <plowen@ilrc-trico.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 08, 2012 4:51 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Proposed elimination of the human services commission

Dear Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors!

The proposed budget for fiscal year 2012/2013 includes the elimination of the human services commission. We urge you to reconsider this and continue the funding to over 50 nonprofit organizations which provide programs to some of the poorest and most vulnerable county residents. We recognize that it is extremely difficult to balance the budget in the current economic situation. Sadly the need for basics such as shelter, food, clothing etc. remains extremely high and the individuals who approach us have no other alternatives. Our agency assists individuals with information on how to find housing, we help them look for rooms/ apartments, connect them with other agencies, provide training in how to approach a landlord etc. We provide personal assistant referrals to clients who need help in their home in order not to enter an institution (and this helps save money). Nonprofit organizations are also able to attract other funding because of their nonprofit status. We urge you to continue the funding for the human services commission. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Best regards,

Petra Lowen  
Community Living Advocate

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Petra Lowen  
Community Living Advocate  
423 W. Victoria St.  
Santa Barbara CA 93101  
805.963.0595 x101

[plowen@ilrc-trico.org](mailto:plowen@ilrc-trico.org)  
[www.ilrc-trico.org](http://www.ilrc-trico.org)



**Lee-Rodriguez, Nicole**

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**From:** Sandee Santana <ssantana@ilrc-trico.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 08, 2012 4:08 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Proposed Budget Cuts

Clerk of the Board

Hello,

I am writing in regards to proposed cuts in county services. If these community based services are cut the impact on the community will be nothing short of devastating. Of course it would affect the disabled and Veteran population. I cannot stress enough to you just how vital these services really are. There is already a crisis within the county involving homeless and disabled persons. I see the results first hand. Without the funding to keep these resources and programs in tact people will have no options. It's bad enough that they have very little and almost no options at this point. Without funding, these services will disappear which in turn will end up costing taxpayers more money. As is, funding for homeless related services runs out before the fiscal year ends. I see persons living on the streets daily, in reality, its really not living at all. Without PA services our disabled will be unable to live independently in their homes many suffer from mental, emotional, and developmental disabilities in turn they may need to be placed in psychiatric facilities which is another part of the potential cuts. In reality they'd be left with no options. Not to mention the impact these cuts will have on our Veterans. Veterans, that gave their lives, their well-being mentally and physically risked themselves fully for the freedom and luxuries that we alone have here in this country. Your taking their independence and quality of life that they have fought to give all of us. It would be selfish to follow through with this. Take a harder look and find other options. Don't take from those that depend on these services and resources to have a little bit of what is their right as stated in the constitution freedom and independence. Their common welfare must come first. Simply keep these services and resources available. It's our

right to live life with dignity, it's our right to live life independently in our own home, to have the resources we need to just live life...

Please don't cut any of the following:

- 1) Community based services that the County provides Human Services contracts to (including our Housing and PA services grant),
- 2) Cut Veterans Services Representative hours: this would effectively close the Santa Barbara and Lompoc offices
- 3) Pro-Pay, a payee service for mental health consumers
- 4) homeless related contracts and
- 5) beds in acute psychiatric facility

Thank you,

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Sandra Santana

ILS/ CLA

Bilingual Advocate

Independent Living Resource Center

327 E. Plaza Drive St 3A

Santa Maria, Ca 93454

[805-925-0015](tel:805-925-0015) x301v/tty/vp

[805-310-4085](tel:805-310-4085) Direct Line

[ssantana@ilrc-trico.org](mailto:ssantana@ilrc-trico.org)

**Downie, Chelsea**

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**From:** Democratic Party of Santa Barbara County <sbdems@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 11, 2012 1:50 PM  
**To:** SupervisorCarbajal; Wolf, Janet; Farr, Doreen; Gray, Joni; Lavagnino, Steve  
**Cc:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Budget Priorities

Dear Chair Farr and Santa Barbara County Supervisors,

We urge you to restore funding to the programs that serve our veterans and the most vulnerable in our county.

In particular we ask that your restore funding for the Human Services Commission, ProPay, mental health acute care beds, homeless related contracts and the Veterans Representative.

The budget should not be balanced on the backs of these people.

Sincerely,

Daraka Larimore Hall

Santa Barbara County Democratic Party

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Democratic Party of Santa Barbara County  
[www.sbdems.org](http://www.sbdems.org)  
805 965 8030



## LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES

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The Legislative Program adheres to the County's legislative principles, which serve as a guide for the County in developing a position on any forthcoming federal and state legislation.

- ❖ **JOB GROWTH/ECONOMIC VITALITY:** Continue to support the development of employment opportunities, and support efforts to promote local business and job growth in an endeavor to decrease the unemployment rate and heighten individual and community economic vitality. Foster interaction and dialogue with public, private, and nonprofit sectors, with a focus on the pursuit of and advocacy for economic vitality and innovation.
- ❖ **EFFICIENT SERVICE DELIVERY/OPERATIONS:** Support efforts to streamline processes and promote operational enhancements relevant to a County department's mission and core services, and oppose legislation that creates undue fiscal and operational burdens on departments.
- ❖ **FISCAL STABILITY:** Support efforts to generate new intergovernmental revenue and/or enhance existing revenue/reimbursement levels and oppose the loss of, or redirecting of, existing revenue and/or the creation of additional unfunded mandates to the County. Such efforts also include supporting a majority state budget vote requirement and a timely adoption of the state budget before the new fiscal year begins.
- ❖ **INTER-AGENCY COLLABORATION:** Partner with neighboring cities on infrastructure and other large-scale projects when possible. Support the advocacy efforts of such organizations as the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), the National Association of Counties (NACO), Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG), First 5 Santa Barbara, and other local and regional agencies. Collaborate with other institutions and entities on mutually beneficial issues such as protection of children, the elderly and other "at risk" populations while upholding the principles of efficient service delivery and operations, fiscal stability and local control.
- ❖ **LOCAL CONTROL:** Ensure local authority and control over governance issues, land use policies and the delivery of services, including flexibility and customization in designing and implementing policies and services that are responsive to the community's preferences. Secure where appropriate direct distribution of federal funds to local governments rather than state pass-throughs. Support efforts to maximize local control to ensure safe and effective speed limits.
- ❖ **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES:** Support efforts to maintain and enhance "safety net" services that protect the most vulnerable within a community, including children, the elderly and other "at risk" populations. Such services in the area of health and human assistance include, but are not limited to, preventive and emergency health care to the uninsured and underinsured; HIV/AIDS programs; maternal and children health; adult protective services; child welfare services; adoptions and foster care; food stamps and unemployment assistance and workforce development. The County supports collaboration between the federal, state and local governments in the delivery and funding of such services. The County opposes the further erosion in federal and state funding of these vital services.
- ❖ **COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY:** Support efforts to foster communitywide sustainability by promoting economic stability and environmental stewardship through participation in the growing green economy. Continue to engage in federal and state deliberations to ensure that local government receives the economic and financial benefits associated with new policies. Support efforts to catalyze community renewal, redevelopment and reinvestment, incubate and support innovative businesses, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and incentivize energy efficiency, water conservation, and the use of renewable energy. Recognize the need to promote mutually beneficial partnerships with public, private, and nonprofit sectors to maintain and protect agricultural and rural resources, coastal areas, and bio-diversity. These collective efforts aim to engender healthy communities by balancing social well-being, economic prosperity, and environmental responsibility.

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### COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

105 East Anapamu Street, Suite 406  
Santa Barbara, California 93101  
805/568-3400 • Fax 805/568-3414

*Terri Maus Nisich, Assistant County Executive Officer*

## **Santa Barbara County Economic Development Director**

The role of the Santa Barbara County Economic Development Director is to enhance the Economic Vitality and Job Growth of Santa Barbara County by supporting the retention, creation and attraction of quality jobs, while retaining Santa Barbara County unique culture and living environment. This position facilitates achieving this goal so that when business is doing well the County is doing well.

**Reports to: Chief Executive Officer**

**Organize and manage key skills necessary to strategically and aggressively support countywide economic development:**

- 1. Develop, implement and evaluate highly targeted short term and forward looking long term strategies for economic and job growth in Santa Barbara County.**
- 2. The ability to develop an "Economic Development Collaborative," of key leadership individuals from across Santa Barbara County. Ability to build, and to administer the collaborative as a working group of individuals from segments of: County, Cities', Chambers of Commerce, City Economic Development Directors, Businesses, Universities and Community Colleges and Financial Centers, including public and private sectors in the County.**
- 3. Develop a "Growth and Small Business Development Center" in the County.**
- 4. Develop economic competitiveness by promoting Broadband business applications, and other business growth strategies and capitalization especially for small and moderate size business, particularly those being spun-off the UCSB and other colleges in or close to the county. Identify and support businesses that are ready to grow with the right assistance.**
- 5. Ability to promote and effectuate marketing using multi-media, etc., based on strong and personal familiarity with Businesses and cities in the County, and a strong ability to develop and to implement economic development strategies.**
- 6. Familiarity with commercial and mixed use real estate development. Knowledge of banks and commercial lenders.**
- 7. Ability to bring on consulting groups to provide the requested researching and tracking of economic trends and services, additionally providing strategic development and evaluation of strategies', and supplying statistical reporting including evaluating economic development efforts and strategies so that the strategy can be steered and revised to increase its effectiveness.**
- 8. Seek initiatives and opportunities from Federal grants and private funding opportunities for economic development for disadvantaged segments of our county.**

9. Plan, organize, assign, review and participate in major economic development and business attraction and retention projects to Santa Barbara County; plan and implement programs to stimulate commercial development in north County.
10. Direct, coordinate, monitor, and evaluate the strategies, programs and activities to ensure business retention and expansion.
11. Manage the development of major economic studies relating to targeted areas, industries, and development programs; assist with the preparation of long-range plans and special studies in coordination with County and City department and other public agencies.
12. Identify and market sites for business development.
13. Establish and maintain liaison with organizations, private business firms, developers, brokers, public agencies, property owners, and the general public and facilitate the planning and execution of economic development activities.
14. Make public presentations to legislative bodies, other public agencies, community groups, development associations, potential investors, and other major assemblages regarding the business development process.
15. Respond to public inquiries pertaining to business development in the County.
16. Meet with developers of major projects and appropriate County departments to identify and resolve planning needs.
17. Coordinate development programs and activities with other department officials.
18. Organize and facilitate an Economic Development training seminars on things like obtaining capital, workforce training, and development of exporting and importing.
19. Oversee the development and revision of informational materials relative to the County development process. Including publications and pamphlets, internet and web-site marketing materials, public and social media marketing.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kathy Staples*, President  
Staples Consulting  
(805) 934-0743  
[kstaples@verizon.net](mailto:kstaples@verizon.net)

Gus Koehler, Ph.D., President  
Time Structures, Inc.  
(916) 564-8683  
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**JOBS & INNOVATION  
ACCELERATOR CHALLENGE**

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**PRESS OFFICE**

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**Release Date:**

May 29, 2012

**Release Number:**

12-29

**Internet Address:**

<http://www.sba.gov/news>

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**OBAMA ADMINISTRATION LAUNCHES \$26 MILLION  
MULTI-AGENCY COMPETITION TO STRENGTHEN  
ADVANCED MANUFACTURING CLUSTERS ACROSS THE  
NATION**

*Fourteen Federal Agencies Collaborate to Enhance Global  
Competitiveness of U.S. Manufacturers and Create Jobs*

WASHINGTON – The Obama Administration today announced a \$26 million multi-

agency Advanced Manufacturing Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge to foster innovation-fueled job creation through public-private partnerships.

These coordinated investments will help catalyze and leverage private capital, build an entrepreneurial ecosystem, and promote cluster-based development in regions across the United States. This is the third round of the Jobs Accelerator competition, which is being funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) and National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST); the U.S. Department of Energy; the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration; the Small Business Administration; and the National Science Foundation (NSF).

"'Made in America' is making a comeback," said **SBA Administrator Karen Mills**. "The Advanced Manufacturing Jobs Accelerator is an opportunity to build on the momentum we're seeing in U.S. manufacturing and to support small businesses and local economies through regional innovation clusters. By working with other federal agencies, we can link, leverage, and align our resources to give small businesses the tools they need to work together, grow and create jobs in the manufacturing sector."

The **deadline for applications is July 9, 2012**, and guidelines for submissions are accessible [here](#). In addition to the six funding partners, the initiative is supported by eight other Federal agencies: U.S. Departments of Agriculture, Education, Housing and Urban Development; Environmental Protection Agency; Denali Commission; and the U.S. Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration (ITA), Minority Business Development Administration (MBDA), and U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

Approximately 12 projects are expected to be chosen through a competitive inter-agency grant process. Applicants are encouraged to submit proposals that will help grow a region's industry clusters by strengthening connections to regional economic development opportunities and advanced manufacturing assets; enhance a region's capacity to create high-quality sustainable jobs; develop a skilled and diverse advanced manufacturing workforce; increase exports; encourage the development of small businesses; and accelerate technological innovation.

Manufacturing accounts for 70 percent of private-sector R&D and 60 percent of U.S. exports—including a record \$1.2 trillion in goods exported in 2011. Over the past 25 months, manufacturers have created nearly half a million jobs—the best streak since 1995. The Jobs Accelerator Challenge is designed to assist the development and implementation of regionally-driven economic development strategies that will support advanced manufacturing and cluster development. The goal is to create jobs, grow the economy, and enhance the competitiveness of U.S. manufacturers in the global marketplace.

Advanced manufacturing is critical to the health of the national economy and provides essential goods and equipment directly to consumers as well as to a wide range of industries, including the energy production, agriculture, medical and computing industries, and the security and intelligence sectors.

"This \$26 million Accelerator Challenge is yet another example of the Obama Administration's commitment to supporting American manufacturers in building things here and selling them everywhere," said **U.S. Commerce Secretary John Bryson**. "We are so pleased to join with our federal agency partners to further strengthen the American manufacturing sector, which creates high quality, good paying jobs. Commerce's Economic Development Administration has a strong record of investing in regional innovation clusters that foster the job creation and business development crucial to an economy that is built to last. This Challenge further bolsters our efforts and builds on the momentum we have seen in the manufacturing sector in recent months, including the 489,000 U.S. manufacturing jobs that have been added since January 2010."



“The Accelerator Challenge is one way the federal government is helping to support the manufacturing industry, a vital source of middle-class jobs,” said **Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis**. “The innovative products developed as a result of this federal grant program will help our economy maintain its global competitive advantage, while also creating jobs at home.”

“Through this partnership, the National Science Foundation will connect innovations from NSF-supported advanced manufacturing research with stakeholders who can accelerate technology commercialization and economic growth,” said **Thomas Peterson, NSF Assistant Director for Engineering**. “NSF is making available up to \$1 million for existing NSF Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Phase II grantees that are part of winning projects.

“As President Obama made clear, an American economy built to last will depend on American manufacturing, American energy and skills for American workers,” said **U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu**. “This is why the Energy Department invests in innovative, public-private initiatives like the Advanced Manufacturing Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge that support American leadership and competitiveness in manufacturing.”

As part of President Obama’s commitment to putting more people back to work and creating an economy built to last, the Administration has invested over \$200 million promoting regional innovation clusters. The Administration also created an interagency task force, known as the Taskforce for the Advancement of Regional Innovation Clusters (TARIC), to develop and administer interagency grant competitions. More than a dozen federal agencies have participated in TARIC-led grant competitions by providing grant funding or other forms of support to the winners of the Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenges.

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6/10/2012

## Creating a Path to Local Jobs...Now!

As a mayor and a businessman who cares deeply about his city and county, I am concerned about our economic situation. On a state and national level it is bad, but on the local level, where we can really feel and see it, it is even worse.

I gauge my opinion on the fact that our latest unemployment rates have improved slightly, but it is still nothing to brag about; not when they are still at double digits. Our latest numbers, as reported by the Santa Maria Times, for Santa Maria, Guadalupe, and Lompoc are 12.9%, 14.1% and 14.6%, respectively. Anyway you look at these numbers, they are still staggering. We need to bring them down to the mid-single digits for the benefit of our cities and our residents.

Not only are the unemployment numbers nothing to be proud of but all cities along with the County of Santa Barbara are scrambling for adequate monies to support police, fire, recreation, libraries, etc. This financial shortfall is not just for this year, but is projected for many years to come.

This problem is further compounded by a constant “stealing” of local dollars by the State of California because that is the only way it knows how to plug the holes in its sinking ship of a budget. It seems as if our state legislators have forgotten that many of them first started in local government. They know first hand that any monies they take from the cities hurts the citizenry they formally represented at a local level, yet they still do it. As a representative voted in by my community to be a steward of my city’s dollars, it is very frustrating to try to balance a budget this way. Just last month the State stole half a million dollars from Guadalupe!! In all, the State took a total of \$2 billion from California cities.

My frustration has forced me to think outside of the box to create a viable solution. A solution that is not only for Guadalupe but quite possibly for any city or county that wants to stimulate its local economy and start steering towards a more sound financial footing. My proposal is straight forward because it applies a simple theory intended to encourage business development and growth. Small businesses are the backbone of our nation’s economy. By providing sound incentives that are designed to encourage growth and stimulate jobs, we can start working our way back out of this recession.

I propose an incentive program intended to reward small business owners for creating local jobs by rebating a portion of their building permits fees or tenant improvement permit fees. The amount of the rebate would be dependent on the number of long-term fulltime jobs they create; the more jobs they create the greater the rebate. The qualification criteria would be simple. A business owner could apply for a rebate of their permitting fees after one year. The rebate

percentage would be based on the number of fulltime employees permanently hired and retained for at least one year.

Job Incentive Program for the City of Guadalupe	
Number of Qualified Long-term Employees	Rebate Percentage
1-2	5%
3-4	10%
5-6	15%
7-8	20%
9-10	25%
11-12	30%
13-14	35%
14-15	40%
16-20	45%
Over 20	50%

A critic of this solution might be concerned about the loss of funds through the rebates, but that is being small minded. If you consider the overall impact it will have, it is clearly a solution that works. Not only would the small business owner be able to use that rebate in growing his/her business, but our cities and our county would benefit from each new person gainfully employed because they will be able to spend those earned dollars locally on purchases for themselves and their families. Over the long term, the sales tax and property tax they generate will more than offset any rebate that was given and ultimately put money back into the public services needed by the deserving citizens of our communities. In addition, the program will sunset once it has accomplished its intended purpose of reducing the current unemployment rate by half. For Guadalupe, that number would be an unemployment average of 7% for a year.

Please keep in mind that the numbers I proposed above have been tailored for the City of Guadalupe, but they can be easily modified to meet the needs of any city or county. The point is, it is time to encourage our local businesses to create local jobs...NOW.

Lupe Alvarez  
Mayor, City of Guadalupe

Chair Farr and Supervisors, I'm speaking as the Mayor of Solvang,

In this season of political campaigns two words are being used by almost every politician from the dog catcher to the president of the united states. Those two words are: jobs,jobs, jobs and economy, economy, economy. Maybe you've used those words in your campaigns. Today, I'm suggesting a way you can take action to make those words come alive. Join with Solvang, Buellton, Lompoc and other communities in the county to form an office of Economic Development.

An office of Economic development influence and accommodate business investment decisions by:

- Investing in supporting infrasture

- Adopting supportive taxing and regulatory policies

- Providing high levels of customer service, being "business friendly"

- Creating smart, sustainable incentives

- Understanding trends in the local economy

- and Communicating with the business community

If the county is successful it encourages job creation, generates the revenue to support and sustain local services, and improves the community's quality of life.

Tonight, the Solvang City Council is considering adopting a Strategic Plan for Economic Development. The Resolution states, in part:

Where as, the City Council recognizes the importance of a healthy economy to the financial stability of the community and quality of life of the citizens of Solvang;

Where as, the City Council understands that the current economy raises concerns regarding the level of prosperity possible for businesses and residents of Solvang; and

Where as, the City Council recognizes that the private sector is the primary driver the economy, creating revenue and jobs for the community, and that the role of the City Council, Commissions, Committees, and Staff is to create conditions which foster private sector investment in the community; and

Where as, the City Council recognizes the City's ability to provide quality public services is dependent upon a healthy economy.

Supervisors, I know that in these times of tight budgets its difficult to find the revenues to undertake a new office, but in these economic times when many businesses are leaving the state we must do what we can to reverse that trend. I encourage you to create a vehicle that can help our county and state return to the robust economic powerhouse it once was.

Thank You

Jim Richardson  
Mayor  
City of Solvang