



SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Minutes

TUESDAY, May 26, 2026

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Location: Civic Center Plaza, 14th Floor Conference Room –
1200 3rd Ave, San Diego, CA 92101

Chair: Sunny Lee | **Vice Chair:** Natasha Salgado

Board Members: Austin Evans, Brandon S. Johnson, Christian Gomez, Jenna Hanson, Juliet Terramin, Michael Sovacool, Natasha Salgado, Sarah Mattinson, and Sunny Lee.

Staff Liaisons: Alex Southard and Sean Karafin.

Item 1: Call to Order (Chair Lee)

- Meeting was called to order at 8:35 AM.

Item 2: Roll Call (Chair Lee)

- In Attendance: Brandon S. Johnson, Christian Gomez, Jenna Hanson, Juliet Terramin, Sarah Mattinson, and Sunny Lee.
- City Staff: Sean Karafin, Alex Southard, Nick Stephens, and Viridiana Quintana.
- Guest: Kenia Zamarripa.
- Members of the Public: Amir Rezai and William Burties.

Item 3: Presentation: Status of Tariffs

- Kenia Zamarripa, Vice President of International and Public Affairs with the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, presented an overview of the status of tariffs and how small businesses in California are reacting to and impacted by the unstable trade landscape.
- Kenia discussed the status of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement as the 6-year joint review approaches and how the future of the program will impact trade.
- Kenia described the challenges of current advocacy efforts in Washington DC.

Item 4: Action: Approval of April Meeting Minutes (Chair Lee)

- With a motion by Sarah Mattinson and a second by Sunny Lee, the Board voted to approve the April 28, 2026 minutes.
 - Yes: Brandon S. Johnson, Christian Gomez, Jenna Hanson, Juliet Terramin, Sarah Mattinson, and Sunny Lee.

- Abstain: None.
- Absent: Austin Evans, Michael Sovacool, and Natasha Salgado.

Item 5: Action: Election of Co Vice Chair (Chair Lee)

- Vice Chair Salgado is on leave. The Board decided not to take action on this item and will vote on Chair and Vice Chair at the June meeting.

Item 6: Action: Draft Advising Letter (Chair Lee)

- The Board discussed public parking and homelessness' impact on small businesses.
- Board will address City Attorney's priorities, \$10 an hour parking in Ballpark District/metered parking in Banker's Hill and how those rates are causing closures of small business.
- Motion: Sarah Mattinson, Second: Sunny Lee
 - Yes: Brandon S. Johnson, Christian Gomez, Jenna Hanson, Juliet Terramin, Sarah Mattinson, and Sunny Lee.
 - Abstain: None.
 - Absent: Austin Evans, Michael Sovacool, and Natasha Salgado.

Item 7: Staff Report

- a. Economic Development Department (Liaison Southard)
 - Alex Southard provided an update from the Economic Development Department.
 - In Fiscal Year 2027, Maintenance Assessment District contracts in Barrio Logan and in Central Commercial will be managed by Barrio Logan Association and Logan Heights Community Development Corporation, respectively.
 - The Economic Development Department conducted a Business Walk in University Heights on May 23. Staff visited approximately 100 businesses. Issues shared were primarily centered around parking and bike lanes. The next Business Walk will be in Old Town on June 25.
 - The deadline to claim unclaimed monies from the Department of Finance is on June 16: <https://www.sandiego.gov/finance/unclaimed>
 - The Fiscal Year 2027 Budget process timeline is as follows:
 - May 27: City Council Second Public Input Budget Hearing – postponed from May 18.
 - June 5: Final Budget Review Committee Hearing.
 - June 9: City Council Budget Hearing and Final Modification.
 - The State's Office of Business has several incentive programs for businesses looking to expand such as financing and bonding, energy savings programs, research and development, and more. Visit <https://business.ca.gov/>.

Item 8: Board Member Discussion

- a. Suggested items for future meetings

- A suggestion was made to reach out to City Attorney as well as District Attorney to learn about quality-of-life issues that impact small businesses as well as the Care Court program.

Item 9: Non-Agenda Public Comment

- None.

Item 10: Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 AM.

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