



**COUNCILMEMBER TODD GLORIA
CITY OF SAN DIEGO**

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: January 8, 2016
TO: Councilmember Myrtle Cole
FROM: Councilmember Todd Gloria 
SUBJECT: 2016 Economic Development & Intergovernmental Relations Committee
Priorities

In response to your memo dated December 22, 2015, I am pleased to offer my priorities for the 2016 Economic Development & Intergovernmental Relations (ED&IR) Committee.

Economic Development Strategy

The ED&IR Committee should continue to oversee the implementation of this multi-year plan to promote job creation and economic growth in the City.

Economic Development Small Business Programs

I was pleased that the Economic Development Department followed up on my suggestions and brought forward amendments to the Storefront Improvement Program to enhance participation. I ask that the ED&IR Committee receive regular reports on the program to monitor the success of these changes and recommend additional funding if necessary. I also ask that the ED&IR Committee evaluate the other programs and funding allocations in the Small Business Enhancement Fund and explore opportunities to improve the efficacy of these programs to benefit more of our City's small businesses.

Economic Incentive Programs

Economic Incentive Programs should be targeted to empower small businesses and to support employers who provide good wages and benefits to their employees. These investments are critical to stimulating the local economy and making San Diego a better place to live and work.

Intergovernmental Relations

The ED&IR Committee should provide recommendations on how to broaden the Council's role and participation in implementing the City's Federal and State Legislative Program. In particular, this should include more pro-active engagement in support of legislative measures that enhance the City's capacity to provide community services, stimulate economic development, and increase funding for affordable housing and homelessness.

Additionally, the Committee and the Economic Development Department should ensure that San Diegans are taking full advantage of statewide incentives that will boost our local economy. The California Competes Tax Credit Program will provide \$200 million in tax credits this fiscal year for businesses that want to expand in or relocate to California. Additionally, the state recently established a new Earned Income Tax Credit that will help roughly two million low-income working Californians and pump \$380 million into local economies throughout the state. By raising awareness and providing information, the City can do its part to make sure that our local economy is benefitting from these programs.

Open Data

I am eager to see the implementation of the Open Data program and hope that that the City moves forward with publishing actual data sets once the inventory of high value data sets is completed. I request that the ED&IR Committee be given regular updates on the progress of the Open Data program and that the Council and the Committee be consulted in making major decisions regarding implementation of that program.

Civic San Diego

In early 2016, the Council will consider an update to Civic San Diego's Operating Agreement, which I hope will include strong community benefits requirements to improve developer certainty and create good paying jobs in the community. The ED&IR Committee should oversee implementation of this agreement to ensure it results in stronger projects that are reflective of the community and Council's priorities.

TG/jl