



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER MONICA MONTGOMERY

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: January 18, 2019

TO: Councilmember Chris Ward, Chair, Economic Development and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

FROM: Councilmember Monica Montgomery, Fourth Council District 

SUBJECT: Economic Development and Intergovernmental Relations Committee Priorities

As Vice Chair of the Economic Development and Intergovernmental Relations (ED&IR) committee I look forward to collaborating with the committee members on identifying committee priorities favorable to our collective communities. As a representative of the Fourth Council District, my priorities are focused on both economic empowerment and opportunity for all. Moreover, I believe these priorities are scalable to serve the best interests of the City of San Diego.

Economic Development:

Small Business Advocacy

It is critical we prioritize historically under-represented by refocusing funds and resources to supporting small businesses. Incentivizing growing industries to expand in underrepresented districts is critical in both generating revenue for a community, but most importantly providing residents access to middle skilled jobs to leading towards their economic self-sufficiency. My priorities are as follows:

- Incentivize businesses to open in underserved districts, with a focus in the green economy.
- Implement microloan plans to assist with small business financing.
- Ensure State and Federal resources are available to local entrepreneurs and small businesses
- Focus PBIDs efforts in underserved communities
- Small Business Bonding Assistance Program
- Ensure diversity and inclusion in underserved firms

Youth Employment and Workforce Development

The city needs to analyze, develop and implement a means to monitor the progress and outcomes for opportunity youth. With a strong team, deep community connections, best-in class web-portal and IT solution, we have the foundation needed to dramatically expand the program in FY20 to rival youth employment programs in other large cities. We also recommend a proclamation for National Volunteers, Internships and Work Readiness Programs week to promote more awareness for the program. Additionally, we recommend in prioritizing the following programs:

- Connect2Careers
- Hire A Youth Summer Programs
- Tech Hire opening the door for students interested in the technology field.
- SDSU's Compact for Success program for guaranteed SDSU admission
- UCSD's CREATE School and District Partnerships to maximize educational opportunities for both students and teachers.
- Youth Opportunity Passes to ensure youth have free access to public transportation resulting in increased access to jobs and extracurricular activities.

Local Hire

Providing pathways to high paying jobs for residents in socioeconomically disadvantaged communities is a step towards expanding economic opportunities for a community. Providing local jobs is a crucial step towards providing a sustainable career pathway for those re-entering society. As a result, it is critical we support any initiatives that help to employ residents in their respective locally sponsored projects. In addition, the City should develop, implement and monitor Community Benefits Agreement policies.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

SB 107, approved in 2015, provides substantial reform of the redevelopment wind-down process and ensures that San Diego will properly receive CDBG repayment/recovery of nearly \$240 million. The City should ensure that funds are reinvested in San Diego's economically disadvantaged communities in the form of infrastructure investment, job creation and economic development.

Climate Action Plan (CAP)

Our climate change policies should invest in creating a sustainable economy. The green economy is unique because we can protect our environment in conjunction with providing job equity. The CAP discusses job equity. The city must prioritize making this a reality by using Community Benefit Agreements, apprenticeship programs, partnering opportunities and responsible contractor criteria in our policy making.

Intergovernmental Relations

Reporting from the following agencies in accordance with any applicable Council Policies:

- Connect2Careers
- Civic San Diego
- Port of San Diego
- San Diego Convention Center Corporation
- San Diego Regional Airport Authority
- San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation
- San Diego Workforce Partnership

Coordinated efforts and actions with outside agencies

- Support the expansion on the City's collaboration with the San Diego Promise Zone (SDPZ) initiative (Federal)
- Ensure Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funding is allocated towards job training and placement for opportunity youth. (Federal)
- Support outreach for Live Well Neighborhood Pilot Program for Encanto and Southeastern San Diego Community Planning Areas. (County of San Diego)

State and Federal Legislative Priorities

Below is a list of state and federal legislation that would impact our communities. The committee must work together with these delegations to compile a comprehensive legislative agenda benefitting the City of San Diego.

California State Assembly

- AB 2, as introduced, Santiago. Community colleges: California College Promise.
 - This bill would instead authorize a community college to use California College Promise funding to waive fees for 2 academic years for certain first-time students who are enrolled in 12 or more semester units.
- AB 23, as introduced, Burke. Workforce training programs.
 - This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to incentivize systems that better facilitate communication and partnerships between businesses, labor advocates, and educational institutions for the purpose of creating tailored workforce training programs that both increase worker participation and further the attainment of increased skills.
- AB 151, as introduced, Voepel. Student financial aid: Cal Grant Program: California Community College Transfer Entitlement Program.
 - Under existing law, to be eligible for an award under the California Community College Transfer Entitlement Program, an applicant may not be 28 years of age or older by December 31 of the award year, among other requirements. This bill would raise that limit to 30 years of age or older.

California State Senate

- SB 2, as introduced, Atkins. Building Homes and Jobs Act. (2017)
 - The bill would require that 20% of all moneys in the fund be expended for affordable owner-occupied workforce housing, and that moneys in the fund allocated to local governments be expended to support affordable housing, home ownership opportunities, and other housing-related programs, as specified. The bill would impose certain auditing and reporting requirements.

Federal

- H.R.159, as introduced, Evans. To require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to establish a grant program to address rising costs of tax compliance for small business concerns, and for other purposes

This memo reflects our top priorities and will serve as the basis for our support of the ED&IR committee. We only support priorities that are equitable and responsive and that identify and seize opportunities to improve the quality of life of all communities.

MLM:me

cc: Mara Elliott, City Attorney
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