



**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 13, 2020
AGENDA**

Chair: Jennifer Swenson
8:30 AM – 10:00 AM, Zoom

- | | | |
|------|---|------------------|
| I. | Call to Order | Jennifer Swenson |
| II. | Updates | |
| | a. City Economic Development | Brian Gabler |
| | b. Mayor's Message | Keith Mashburn |
| | c. Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District | Elaine Freeman |
| | d. Assembly Member Smith | Ryan Valencia |
| | e. Economic Development Collaborative | Juliana Ramirez |
| | f. Simi Valley Unified School District | Jamie Snodgrass |
| | g. Adventist Health Simi Valley | Jennifer Swenson |
| | h. Visit Simi Valley/Film Simi Valley | Layma Askarzo |
| | i. Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce | Kathi Van Etten |
| III. | Questions/Comments | Jennifer Swenson |

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 10, 2020, 8:30 a.m.

Disclaimer: The Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee is a committee of the Chamber of Commerce. The Committee acts as a forum for discussion about economic development and provides the Board of Directors with recommendations for decisions. Comments made at committee meetings do not represent the views of the Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce or the Board of Directors.

Present: Samantha Shapiro, Kathi Van Etten, Elaine Freeman, Jennifer Swenson, Brian Gabler, Janice Gnesda, John Tolson, Kat Shepherd, Kristin Tignac, Mike McCaffrey, Maral Kirakosian, Gena Barnhart, Ron Resnick, Sandra Hernandez, David Yoshitomi, Daryl Kleintob, Layma Askarzo, Charles Navarro, Ryan Valencia, Amy Corneau, Mike Garcia

Call to Order – 8:35 AM

Economic Development Update – Brian Gabler

- City is working with the property owner at the West Hills Ct. property on changes to the building; they are working with a tenant in Camarillo
- There is another business looking to move its operations and HQ to Simi Valley
- A business from Chatsworth is also relocating to Simi Valley
- There is a lot of interest from businesses looking to move into Simi Valley
- Tenant improvements on the 1757 Tapo Canyon Road building are moving along, which will be the new location for the Amazon distribution center
 - They are also looking at 40 National Way as a possible second location for a distribution center in Simi Valley
- As we move into fire season, there will likely be more PSPS

City of Simi Valley Youth Employment Services Near-Term COVID Plan – David Yoshitomi

- The YES advisory board is developing a COVID response/action plan as it relates to youth employment
- A survey will be sent to all employers asking for their needs, areas of concern, and things they are currently looking for in employees
- They are asking for businesses to respond and send the survey to other business owners they know in order to get comprehensive survey results

Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District – Elaine Freeman

- The district is now debt free
- They are working on the recreation part of the building
- The financial impact of the virus has been significant for the district, including the wedding cancellations from Strathearn Park and the cancellation of recreation/classes
- They are trying to accommodate the changes but the rules are all different

Assembly Member Christy Smith – Ryan Valencia

- The state website, [covid19.ca.gov](https://www.covid19.ca.gov) is the best resource for the latest updates for district/county closures
- AB 3088 was a tenant protection bill dealing with housing relief
- Ventura County is in the purple stage of reopening, as stated by the Governor's update

Adventist Health Simi Valley – Jennifer Swenson

- On September 4, the county saw the lowest ICU numbers at 12, hospitalizations at 56 and 118 deaths
- They are waiting to see how the numbers are after the Labor Day holiday, as past holidays (Memorial Day, 4th of July) showed an increase in numbers

Simi Valley Chamber Tourism Alliance – Layma Askarzo

- Visit Simi Valley is hosting a Restaurant Week from October 21 – 28th with small giveaways
- They are promoting hiking and biking trails
- There have been an influx of film permits; one difficulty they are seeing is the lack of a standard among COVID tests for the industry
- Hotels are seeing a boost in room night stays as a result of staycations in the area

Congressman Garcia – Mike Garcia

- They are in session for three weeks next week and after that they will be in the district through the elections
- There was a request for formal support to be provided in relation to the fires in California, which will primarily impact the Northern California fires
- They are working with Cal Fire and Port Hueneme to focus on large areal tanks getting out quicker
- Negotiations are ongoing with the House, Senate and White House regarding funding

Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce – Kathi Van Etten

- The Chamber is continuing to advocate for businesses to get them in touch with who they need and moving forward as they are allowed to operate
- The candidate forums will be hosted on September 30 and October 1
- State of the County will be on September 17
- Simi Works Job Center continues to operate and is a great place for businesses to post any job openings or for job seekers to look
- The Chamber is looking to launch the Senior Services Alliance, a networking group to bring together businesses who provide services to seniors

Adjourn – 9:08 AM