

**STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF BEXAR
CITY OF SAN ANTONIO**

A QUORUM OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO WAS PRESENT AT THE MAYOR'S JOB SUMMIT, HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL PLAZA BUILDING, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2009.

The San Antonio City Council convened for the Mayor's Job Summit at 9:00 am, Wednesday, **December 16, 2009**, Municipal Plaza Building. City Clerk, Leticia M. Vacek noted a quorum of the Council with the following present: Cisneros, Taylor, Ramos, Cortez, Medina, Lopez, Williams, Chan, Clamp, and Mayor Castro. **ABSENT:** Rodriguez.

1. JOB GROWTH INITIATIVES FOR THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO

Bill Moll, President and General Manager of KLRN welcomed all to the Mayor's Job Summit. He reported that Mayor Castro was one of five Mayors of US Cities that was invited by President Obama to participate in the Community Jobs Forum held in Washington, DC on December 3, 2009. He stated that the participant's role was to help identify new opportunities for job creation and job preservation.

Mayor Castro thanked everyone that was in attendance and spoke of the Community Jobs Forum held in Washington, D.C. He stated that as many jobs as possible should be created and retained, and that state and local level policies should be implemented to place people in employment. He noted that the national administration was focused on the following investments: 1) Infrastructure; 2) First Responders to include Police Officers and Firefighters; and 3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation. He introduced Steve Nivin to provide an overview of the Economy and Employment Sectors.

Mr. Nivin stated that the US Real Gross Domestic Product had experienced four consecutive quarters of negative growth prior to a healthy 2.8% gain over the third quarter of 2009. He noted that the Delinquency Rate on Single-Family Residential Mortgages had greatly increased since 1991 and that the Delinquency Rate on Consumer Loans and Credit Card Loans were noticing improvement. He reported that the Housing Market in San Antonio was improving through increased sales activity and that Commercial and Industrial Loans had also increased. He spoke of the increase in the Texas Leading Economic Index, indicating a positive trend for the economy.

Mr. Nivin reported that the San Antonio Unemployment Rate as of October, 2009 was 7.4% and was doing well compared to other areas in the state and nation. He outlined the 2009 Employment by Industry in San Antonio, noting that Government was the largest employer and that San Antonio had gained 10,130 jobs from 2007-2009. He stated that 155,850 jobs were projected to be gained in San Antonio from 2009-2014. Lastly, he noted that there would be continued increases in unemployment into 2010 but San Antonio was faring well and our economy would have a quicker recovery compared to the national economy.

At 9:30 am, Mr. Moll asked that everyone proceed to the mezzanine to convene in small break out groups to discuss a series of relevant questions related to job creation in San Antonio. The participants reconvened in the Council Chambers at 10:30 am to present key information gathered by each of the 12 groups.

Table 1 – James Andrews stated that their discussion was based on the idea that two-thirds of jobs will be provided through small businesses. He noted the importance of collaboration among local businesses and securing financing through partnerships with local banks. He stated that the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) was a great opportunity for growth in the community and should begin through collaboration among the Office of Military Affairs and community businesses. Lastly he reported that Healthcare, IT, and Green Technologies were the jobs of the future.

Table 2 - John Bozada stated that residential and commercial construction, as well as professional and business services had been most affected in the local economy. He noted that opportunities for growth included Local Government, Hospitality, Health Care, and Financial Services. He reported that jobs of the future included those in the Green Technology and Transportation Equipment industries. He added that local businesses would begin hiring if there were direct incentives for employees and employers for training programs.

Table 3 – Ramon Contreras spoke of the challenges with lines of credit and access to capital. He stated that small businesses in the housing and construction industries and professional service firms had suffered greatly. He noted that small businesses continued to struggle with access to capital and that the city faced challenges with recruiting a talented workforce with the Healthcare and Technology sectors. He reported that Manufacturing, Healthcare, and Emerging Technology would provide the jobs of the future. He added that access to capital; training and education programs were obstacles to job creation in the community.

Table 4 – John Cruz reported that the sectors that had been greatly impacted by the economy included Housing, Trade Labor, and Tourism. He stated that opportunities for growth in the community included BRAC, IT, Sustainable Energy, and Bio Med. Jobs of the future would include those within the Technology, Medical, and Education sectors. He added that local businesses should be provided access to capital and better connections with Intermediary Education.

Table 5 – Kim Gresham stated that financial institutions had greatly reduced loans to small businesses and that many service-oriented businesses had suffered due to the economic conditions. She noted that BRAC would have a great impact on San Antonio and that the Bio-Chemical and Medical Industries would provide opportunities for growth. She reported that jobs of the future would include Skilled Labor, IT, Solar Energy Technicians, and Medical. She spoke of the importance of workforce training and incentives for local businesses.

Table 6 – Terry Kyle reported that the Manufacturing, Real Estate and Construction industries had been greatly impacted by the economy. He stated that small businesses were struggling with the lack of capital and that there should be a more skilled workforce. He noted that in order to grow, good training programs should be implemented and should focus on the Healthcare, Banking, and Manufacturing industries. He added that jobs of the future would include those in the Biomedical Research, IT-Cyber Security and Solutions, Medical Services, and Green Technology sectors. He mentioned that current obstacles to job creation were education, job training, and capital. Lastly, he stated that a community-wide approach to address issues with job training was necessary.

Table 7 – Morgan Matson stated that Real Estate, Small Contractors, and Banking industries had been impacted due to the economic conditions. He noted that cash flow and the lack of financing were

identified as issues that businesses were struggling with. He spoke of the opportunities for growth within Manufacturing, Green Jobs, and Real Estate. He added that businesses would begin hiring again when they had access to cash flow through improved lending from financial institutions.

Table 8 – Patrick Shearer reported that Construction and Manufacturing had suffered due to the challenging economic times and that there was not sufficient funding for transportation. He noted that small businesses were struggling due to lack of capital. He spoke of the opportunities for growth that included Medical Infrastructure, Cyber Security, and BRAC. Additionally, he stated that jobs for BRAC Projects, Alternative Energy, and Renewable Construction were jobs of the future. He mentioned that there was a great need for technical training and that local businesses should be hired for government projects. Lastly, he noted that there should be more public/private partnerships to secure jobs.

Table 9 – Zuani Villarreal conveyed that the industries that were not thriving in today's economy included Real Estate and Construction. She spoke of the opportunities for growth within the Green Industry, Manufacturing, and Small Business sectors. She noted that in order for job creation to occur, amenities throughout the city should be improved and the workforce must be better trained.

Table 10 – Manuel Zuniga noted that financing was a big issue in the community and spoke of the lines of credit being reduced. He stated that Construction, Professional Services and Automotive industries had been greatly impacted by the economy. He reported that there were opportunities for growth within Technology, Biomed/Healthcare and Government Contracting and those sectors would provide future employment opportunities. He mentioned that lack of a highly educated workforce and lack of funding for businesses were obstacles to job creation. He noted that funding by banks and spending by the public would help local businesses hire more employees.

Table 11 – Jeanne Russell mentioned that industries that had been affected by the economy included Retail, Construction, Real Estate, and Small Businesses. She added that many were struggling with the lack of credit and access to financing and loans. She spoke of opportunities for growth through Alternative Energy/Sustainability/Green Jobs and leveraging government investment in BRAC. She reported that leveraging foreign investment through the Port San Antonio and Mission Verde would create the jobs of the future. Lastly, she added that financial institutions must provide funding for businesses and that government should hire local companies in an effort to assist businesses to begin hiring again.

Table 12 – Manoj Mate related that the sectors that had been most impacted by economic conditions include Restaurants/Hospitality, Transportation, Creative Arts, and Communications. He spoke of the lack of credit and financing for small businesses. He stated that Medical/Healthcare, Information Technology, and Cyber Security/Military were industries with opportunities for growth. He noted that Green Jobs, Technology, and the Transportation sectors would provide the jobs of the future. He mentioned that the lack of an educated and well-trained workforce and lack of capital and investment were obstacles to job creation. Lastly, he stated that there should be better preparation and a long-term strategy regarding economic development and that creating public/private partnerships to promote greater investment in key sectors was critical to job creation.

Mr. Moll thanked everyone for their participation. Mayor Castro recognized Messrs. Moll and Nivin for their work and thanked all of the participants for their input. He stated that San Antonio had an

opportunity to impact the direction of the national economic investment policy through the information provided today. He spoke of the investments that would be made due to BRAC and other economic development opportunities that would bring jobs to the city.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, the Mayor's Job Summit was adjourned at 11:35 am.

APPROVED



JULIÁN CASTRO
MAYOR

Attest:



LETICIA M. VACEK, TRMC/CMC
City Clerk