



PFP E-bulletin

February 9, 2006

Partnership For Prosperity Leaps into Action

PFP's five Action Teams—focused on Business Development, Civic Infrastructure, Clean Energy Technology, High School Education, and Post-Secondary Education—recently convened to identify the long-term results that team Champions and members are committed to jointly accomplish. The Action Teams, comprised of Partnership's organizations and other community leaders, will continue to actively work together in February to identify measures of success to hold themselves accountable to demonstrating progress, as well as the immediate action steps that will move the team towards reaching its objectives. The outcome of their efforts will be published in a Regional Business Plan in March, 2006.

Business Development: Making the Sacramento Region the Best Place for Business

This team's work will result in the creation of a more coordinated, robust business retention strategy in the region. This could involve the development of region-wide business information resources, including a common business portal which connects users to all available resources related to business initiation and growth. The team is also considering regionally-integrated business surveys, and coordinating their activities to identify new ways to encourage jurisdictions to consider best practices and create a better business climate.

Clean Energy Technology: Demonstrating the Region's Commitment to Innovation Industries

This team has identified near-term opportunities to support business initiation and growth in the clean technology sector. Additionally, team members are considering which longer-term goals would also be worth pursuing. Some ideas: strengthening the market for green energy within the region; increasing the involvement of private citizens that are supporting and using clean technologies in their everyday world; and building the base of political support for a regional focus on clean energy technology.

Civic Infrastructure: Identifying and Funding the Appropriate "Package" of Regional Amenities

The work of this Action Team will result in identification of what combination of civic amenities the region wants to support and how those amenities should be funded. The team believes it may need to pursue a mixture of polling, focus group sessions and citizen engagement workshops to: (1) Gauge citizens' willingness to support various funding mechanisms for civic amenities; (2) Identify the right package of arts, entertainment, sports, and cultural amenities to support; and (3) Educate the region's leaders about the opportunities and trade offs associated with particular amenity/funding selections.

High School Education: Making Students Ready-for-School-Ready-for-Work

The Action Team has identified the importance of building links between all of the varied regional projects and organizations focused on improving high school education to ensure the efforts align to meet the region's training and learning goals. Using data on economic projections for the region, the team will focus on matching the emphasis and distribution of student preparatory programs with the emerging economic opportunity areas in our region's economy. Furthermore, the team will consider ways to expose local students to this regional career opportunity information.

Post-Secondary Education: Meeting the Needs of the Region's Economy

After asking experts to pinpoint the biggest economic growth and opportunity areas for the next five to ten years in the region, the Post-Secondary Team will focus on identifying if there are gaps in post-secondary education and training programs to meet these regional needs. University and college leaders have agreed to work collaboratively to create and expand programs, with a willingness to establish partnerships to combine the strengths of individual institutions. The team also wants to focus on marketing the region's existing strengths in post-secondary education and build our reputation as a region that values lifelong learning.

Get involved!

Several positions are still available on the Action Teams, so if you or someone you know is interested in getting involved please contact Valley Vision's project associate Go Funai at (916) 325-1630, go.funai@valleyvision.org.