



Road to Recovery Conference – Central California

Creating Opportunities from Federal Economic Stimulus Dollars

Road to Recovery Conference-Wide Events

8:15-1:30 Press Check-In at Registration Desk

8:50-9:15 ***Road to Recovery Opening Session Speakers:***

- Cynthia Bryant, Director of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's California Recovery Task Force
- Mike Dozier, Director of California State University, Fresno, Office of Community and Economic Development

1:30-2:00 ***Road to Recovery Luncheon Address***

- Mayor Ashley Swearingin, City of Fresno

Road to Recovery Workshops

9:20-10:50 **Workshop 1: Step One on the Road to Recovery – Jobs**

This session reviews key challenges and opportunities for economic development in California's Central Valley and provides an overview of what new types of financing and tax relief are available to local, state and federal government entities as well as businesses, non-profits and other organizations through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) – from loan guarantees to tax-exempt bonds.

Moderator: Nicole Parra, Director, Regional Development Initiatives, California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency

Panelists

- Andrea Baker, Director, Merced County Workforce Investment Board
- Doug Mosebar, President, California Farm Bureau Federation
- Joanie Jones Kelly, Executive Director, California Debt Limit Allocation Committee
- Dr. Antonio Avalos, Director of Research, Center for Economic Research and Education of Central California, CSU Fresno

11:00-12:30 **Workshop 2: Avoiding the Pitfalls, Protecting Recovery Dollars from Waste and Fraud**

A very high level of accountability accompanies Recovery Act funding. Learn what this means to entities applying for and receiving funding and how to determine what makes a project acceptable under these new levels of accountability.

Moderator: Laura Chick, California Recovery Act Inspector General

Panelists

- Sheila Oberto, Assistant U.S. Attorney
- Elaine Howle, California State Auditor
- Birgit Fladagger, District Attorney, County of Stanislaus
- Lisa Cardella-Presto, Merced County Auditor
- Alex Quintero, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Department of Agriculture Investigations

2:15-3:30

Workshop 3: Transportation Infrastructure, Vehicle and Fuel Technology

Our state and nation's transportation infrastructure has not kept up with demands for goods movement or personal mobility. What opportunities exist within the Recovery Act funds federally designated for this purpose? How equipped are we for newer automotive technologies? This session will also explore new vehicle and fuel technology regulations.

- Malcolm Dougherty, Director, California Department of Transportation, District 6
- Lynn Terry, Deputy Executive Director, California Air Resources Board
- Tony Boren, Executive Director, Council of Fresno County Governments; Vice Chairman, San Joaquin Valley COG Directors Association

2:15-3:30

Workshop 4: Housing

The foreclosure crisis has affected California more than almost any other state in the nation. What funds in the Recovery Act are federally directed at combating this problem? What new tools are available through Recovery Act to finance new housing construction?

- Nathan Magsig, Councilmember, City of Clovis; Executive Director, Coalition for Urban Renewal Excellence (CURE)
- Chris Westlake, Deputy Director, California Department of Housing and Community Development
- Rollie Smith, Field Office Director, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

2:15-3:30

Workshop 5: Broadband

California will be highly competitive for the Recovery Act funding federally designated for broadband development. Learn about the efforts within California to expand access to broadband networks and how everyone can participate in the efforts to bring broadband access to every Californian – particularly in rural areas.

- Joe Camicia, Chief of Staff, California Chief Information Officer
- Luis Arteaga, Director of Emerging Markets, California Emerging Technology Fund
- Robert Haga, Chief of Staff, California Public Utilities Commission

3:45-5:00

Workshop 6: Workforce Training Programs

A workforce that is trained and adaptable will be the backbone of the state's economic recovery. What programs can be funded through the Recovery Act to position job seekers in growth sectors? Where can one receive training, or find employees that are fit for a particular industry?

- Andrea Baker, Director, Merced County Workforce Investment Board

- Jaime Fall, Deputy Secretary of Employment and Workforce, California Labor and Workforce Development Agency
- Blake Konczal, Director, Fresno County Workforce Investment Board
- Peter Weber, Co-Chair, Regional Jobs Initiative

3:45-5:00

Workshop 7: Energy Programs

How can local, state and federal government entities as well as businesses, non-profits and other organizations take advantage of Recovery Act funding federally designated for energy efficiency, weatherization on existing developments, clean energy systems and other energy-related programs and activities?

- Pat Perez, Assistant Executive Director, CA Energy Commission
- Ernie Flores, Executive Director, Central Valley Opportunity Center
- Jean Warren, Manager for State Programs, Central Valley Opportunity Center
- David Rubin, Director of Service Analysis, PG&E

3:45-5:00

Workshop 8: Education

California was among the very first states in the nation to tap into billions of Recovery Act funds for our schools. How can this Recovery Act funding be further channeled to improve our educational system? How can schools make themselves competitive for these funds, and what results do we expect to see from the use of the funds?

- Tori Hatada, Federal Policy Director, California Office of the Secretary for Education