

10 Ways the Chamber Helped your Business this Quarter

As seen in **SAN FRANCISCO BUSINESS** *this Quarter*
A quarterly publication of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce (Sept 2011)



SAN FRANCISCO
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



S.F. State University V.P. for University Advancement Robert Nava discussed economic recovery with U.S. Deputy Under Secretary for Economic Affairs Dr. Nancy Potok at the Winning the Future Roundtable hosted by the Chamber.



The Chamber helped bring 11 leading candidates together to discuss jobs and economic issues at the Alliance for Jobs and Sustainable Growth Mayoral Debate broadcast by Comcast.



The Chamber helped derail three harmful measures from the November Ballot, including an effort to dismantle the city's successful Care Not Cash program aiding the homeless.

1 Diffused Harmful Healthy San Francisco Amendment

The Chamber helped diffuse a proposed amendment to the city's Health Care Security Ordinance, which would have eliminated the use of Health Reimbursement Arrangements (HRAs) as a way to comply with the city's health care mandate. The legislation would have cost employers \$50 million annually and put jobs and economic recovery at risk. The Chamber is now working with the Board of Supervisors on alternative efforts to encourage employee participation in health benefits offered by employers.

2 Helped Derail Damaging Measures from November Ballot

The Chamber aggressively opposed three damaging local measures, which were pulled from the November election ballot. The measures included: an initiative ordinance to eliminate shelter beds from the city's successful Care Not Cash program assisting the homeless; a demolition ban on buildings with more than 50 housing units; and a measure preventing the Recreation and Park Department from generating needed earned revenue.

3 Connected Members with Senior White House Officials

The Chamber hosted two Winning the Future Roundtables bringing large, medium and small-sized member businesses together with U.S. Deputy Under Secretary for Economic Affairs Dr. Nancy Potok and U.S. Department of Labor Assistant Secretary Jane Oates to discuss jobs, the economy and ideas to accelerate recovery. Bringing members together with federal leaders helps keep San Francisco priorities alive in Washington and opens doors for member businesses

4 Helped Focus Mayoral Race on Jobs

The Chamber joined business, labor and community groups in supporting the Alliance for Jobs and Sustainable Growth Mayoral Debate, which brought together 11 leading candidates for Mayor to discuss job and economic issues. Facilitating dialogue on employment and the economy is helping to bring clarity to the issues most important to business in the crowded mayoral election.

5 Expanded Leads-Exchange Program

The Chamber added a new Business Alliance leads-exchange group to its roster of business development programs. Business Alliance is just one Chamber program helping members develop skills and tools to grow their business, dramatically expand their network of contacts and exchange leads, which turn into increased revenue.

6 Helped Attract New Business to S.F.

ChinaSF, an initiative of the Chamber's foundation program the San Francisco Center for Economic Development (SFCED), helped attract leading Chinese solar company, China Sunergy, to downtown San Francisco. The Chambers efforts to promote San Francisco to international cleantech companies are helping to make the city a leading hub for clean technology, driving both job growth and economic activity.

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7 Helped Launch Fashion Incubator

The Chamber's foundation program, the San Francisco Center for Economic Development, helped launch Fashion Incubator San Francisco, a non-profit program sponsored by Macy's to help strengthen the West Coast fashion industry, and create new businesses and employment opportunities in the city.

8 Created Economic Growth through Global Commerce

The Chamber was honored with the prestigious Going International award from the American Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE) for its global initiatives: ChinaSF, ChinaTrip and other programs. Together, these initiatives have attracted ten companies and more than 120 jobs to the city, and helped enhance cultural understanding among local business and community representatives.

9 Rallied for CPMC Rebuild

The Chamber, together with labor unions and community health groups, actively supported the California Pacific Medical Center (CPMC) rebuild project, which will deliver needed seismic improvements and upgrades to one of the city's main hospital providers and inject \$3 billion in construction, jobs and community benefits into the local economy.

10 Supported Main Street Fairness

The Chamber supported the E-Fairness bill signed by Governor Brown. The bill will help level the playing field for brick and mortar businesses and generate \$200 million in tax revenue by requiring online-only retailers to collect the state-mandated sales tax. As Internet-only retailers such as Amazon.com and Overstock.com continue to fight the bill, the Chamber continues to stand with Main Street to make sales tax collections equitable for local businesses and consumers.

Chamber By the Numbers

The Chamber represents:

- 1,500 members
- 200,000 employees
- Companies of every size and industry, from every neighborhood in San Francisco and around the Bay Area
- Small Business: 85 percent of Chamber members have fewer than 250 employees

The Chamber delivers:

- 1 million annual referrals to member companies via phone, website, staff and 250 programs and annual events
- 5,000 subscribers to the Chamber's weekly e-newsletter, San Francisco Business This Week
- 2,000 subscribers to the Chamber's quarterly newsletter, San Francisco Business This Quarter
- Credibility with voters: 35 percent of city voters follow the Chamber's lead on ballot recommendations

**Connect
with Success**

Connect with success at the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, your link to the people, programs and resources you need to grow your business. Join the more than 1,500 member businesses that benefit from the Chamber's pro-business advocacy, business and professional development programs, and high-visibility events throughout the year. Contact membership at membership@sfchamber.com or 415.352.8824 for more information. Website: www.sfchamber.com