

Partner's Meeting February 13, 2026

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Quick recap

The meeting focused on updates and discussions related to the California Jobs First program in LA County, including a presentation by Beacon Economics on the regional economy and workforce trends. Stafford from Beacon presented key findings, including demographic shifts, job market trends, and the impact of AI on employment, while also introducing new asset maps to aid economic development efforts. Chioma highlighted regional and statewide institutional efforts to sustain the program beyond its current grant period, including internal fundraising and advocacy strategies. Updates on working groups and the Investment and Sustainability Advisory Committee (ISAC) were shared, with Estefania explaining the focus and timeline for developing playbooks to ensure long-term program sustainability. The meeting also covered upcoming regional events and opportunities for collaboration, concluding with a reminder for participants to stay engaged and connected through the program's communications channels.

Summary

- Introductions of new and returning partners in the California Jobs First LA County network.
- Presentation of a 160-page workforce and economic analysis highlighting:
 - Aging population
 - Declining private-sector job growth
 - High housing costs limiting workforce mobility
 - Growing role of AI in job postings
 - Rising education requirements for jobs
- Launch of interactive county asset maps covering 300,000+ data points (companies, parcels, workforce data).
- Report on economic impacts of federal immigration enforcement:
 - Undocumented workers contribute **\$253.9 billion annually**
 - Support over **1 million jobs** in LA County
- California Jobs First program updates:

- Currently in catalyst phase through September
- Efforts underway to secure long-term funding and sustainability
- Proposed trailer bill to create an Office of Regional Economic Development Initiatives within GO-Biz
- ISAC Working Groups progress:
 - Development of Sustainability and Partnerships Playbook
 - Policy and advocacy strategy advancement
 - Upcoming meetings in March
- Announcement of California Jobs First State Investment Summit (Sacramento pitch event for Round 2 applicants).
- Upcoming regional economic events, including LAEDC's 2026 Annual Economic Forecast scheduled for February 25th at Glendale Community College featuring regional leaders and breakout sessions on healthcare and infrastructure and economic forecast programs.
- Future Forum in March to convene CSU presidents, Chancellor's Office, and LAEDC leadership focusing on inclusive growth, AI career readiness, and regional economic development
 - Platform for higher education and workforce collaboration on future-ready skills
- Wildfire Survivor Serving Organizations event on February 21st at Pasadena Convention Center to support recovery with resource fairs and expert panels
 - Opportunity for community engagement and support network building for affected residents
- BizFed Institute's Business Access to Funding Summit on March 26th offers direct access to funding sources including CDFIs and major banks
 - Features keynote speakers like Miguel Santana and State Treasurer Fiona Ma
 - Designed for businesses seeking capital, scaling, and capacity building with breakout sessions and networking
 - Additional regional workforce and clean tech initiatives such as Unite LA's Clean Tech Career Academy and Main Street Goes Green accelerator will share information in follow-up communications.
- Next California Jobs First Partner's meeting will be held on Friday, April 10th, 2026.

TRANSCRIPT

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00:00:42.800 --> 00:00:44.740

Chioma Agbahiwe: Good morning, everyone.

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00:00:47.370 --> 00:00:48.560

Dorian Esters I.: Good morning, happy...

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00:00:48.770 --> 00:00:50.140

Dr. Michelle Yanez: Good morning!

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00:00:50.140 --> 00:00:52.320

Chioma Agbahiwe: Good morning, good morning.

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00:00:53.870 --> 00:00:55.000

Jolly Glover: Good morning!

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00:00:55.660 --> 00:00:56.979

Chioma Agbahiwe: Good morning.

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00:00:58.980 --> 00:01:01.510

Chioma Agbahiwe: Happy, Friday the 13th.

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00:01:07.800 --> 00:01:08.889

Chioma Agbahiwe: We'll take the...

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00:01:08.890 --> 00:01:12.490

Mary Hayes: How about happy day before Valentine's, how about that one?

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00:01:12.900 --> 00:01:15.240

Mary Hayes: Oh, that sounds even better.

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00:01:15.240 --> 00:01:16.310

Kevin Harbour: Sounds expensive.

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00:01:16.310 --> 00:01:17.930

Dorian Esters I.: I love that.

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00:01:19.230 --> 00:01:20.580

Chioma Agbahiwe: Oh, Mr. Harvard.

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00:01:22.990 --> 00:01:24.709

Kevin Harbour: I've already started spending money.

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00:01:27.730 --> 00:01:31.259

Kevin Harbour: But what better reason, but what better reason?

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00:01:31.650 --> 00:01:32.720

Chioma Agbahiwe: There you go.

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00:01:32.810 --> 00:01:34.179

Kevin Harbour: There you go.

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00:01:34.770 --> 00:01:40.419

Chioma Agbahiwe: And Mr. Harbor, I'm sure you and your wife will have a lovely Valentine weekend.

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00:01:40.420 --> 00:01:42.960

Kevin Harbour: It's already planned out, absolutely.

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00:01:42.960 --> 00:01:44.990

Chioma Agbahiwe: I'm sure it is, see?

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00:01:46.230 --> 00:01:46.680

Kevin Harbour: Absolutely.

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00:01:46.680 --> 00:01:48.009

Chioma Agbahiwe: I'm sure it is!

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00:01:48.890 --> 00:01:50.120

Chioma Agbahiwe: Yes!

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00:01:50.860 --> 00:01:57.820

Chioma Agbahiwe: And Dr. Seal says it's hilarious to see her picture on the screen. Well, as we know, that picture is from

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00:01:58.440 --> 00:02:03.940

Chioma Agbahiwe: The regional summit that took place last year in Antelope Valley.

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00:02:04.300 --> 00:02:09.000

Chioma Agbahiwe: Thank you to the almost 200 people, I think, that showed up.

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00:02:09.440 --> 00:02:12.559

Chioma Agbahiwe: That was a great day in Antelope Valley.

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00:02:14.650 --> 00:02:17.799

Chioma Agbahiwe: Yes, and we had some great pictures come out of that event.

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00:02:18.900 --> 00:02:30.090

Chioma Agbahiwe: Okay, we're admitting some more people, so what we'll do is we'll go ahead and get started. We always like to start with intros, so if we have any new partners on the call.

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00:02:30.090 --> 00:02:39.109

Chioma Agbahiwe: or partners, who maybe their organization has had staffing updates, and you're new to California Jobs First in LA County.

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00:02:39.910 --> 00:02:44.479

Chioma Agbahiwe: Please, unmute yourself and let us know who you are.

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00:02:45.210 --> 00:02:54.350

Chioma Agbahiwe: Or you can write it in the chat if you're shy. But we like to hear from any, partners. Maybe we haven't heard from you in a while.

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00:02:55.660 --> 00:02:58.769

Chioma Agbahiwe: Okay, I see Carlos. Go right ahead.

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00:02:59.840 --> 00:03:05.740

Carlos Marin - NERI: Hi, hello, good morning, everybody. My name is Carlos Marin, I've been to these meetings

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00:03:06.560 --> 00:03:18.510

Carlos Marin - NERI: I'm involved with California Jobs First. My organization, New Earth Regeneration Initiative, is a collaborating partner with a Last Mile project in Imperial County.

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00:03:18.820 --> 00:03:33.329

Carlos Marin - NERI: And now we are working with a couple of universities here in LA County to try to implement something similar, and hopefully, College of Spurs, continues, and hopefully we can apply for something,

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00:03:33.330 --> 00:03:40.540

Carlos Marin - NERI: next year here, and that's... that's the reason why I'm here. I'm also part of the... now I'm part of the advisory group,

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00:03:40.690 --> 00:03:45.109

Carlos Marin - NERI: That was recently formed. So, that's why I'm here.

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00:03:46.000 --> 00:03:57.980

Carlos Marin - NERI: Sounds good. Yep, you're part of, our working groups. Working groups. So we'll talk, we'll talk about that. We have a new Isaac Advisory Committee, and we have multiple working groups, so...

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00:03:57.980 --> 00:04:03.150

Chioma Agbahiwe: Thank you, glad to have you on board. Okay, next we'll go to Dr. Seal.

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00:04:04.950 --> 00:04:06.530

Dr. Shindale Seale: Hi, folks,

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00:04:06.680 --> 00:04:23.209

Dr. Shindale Seale: As Chioma said, I'm the one right there in the middle, on your screen. I'm Dr. Shindel Seal, and I'm the founder of Seed Coaching and Consulting. I specialize in a culturally responsive workforce development curriculum for organizations, you know, serving marginalized communities.

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00:04:23.210 --> 00:04:38.820

Dr. Shindale Seale: Particularly with the California Jobs First CALIS grantees, so my work really helps organizations leverage cultural identity as an economic asset, you know, rather than a barrier. So I'm really excited to be here and learn from all of you and connect with all of you, so thank you.

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00:04:40.680 --> 00:04:44.289

Chioma Agbahiwe: Thank you, glad to have you aboard. I will go to Chris next.

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00:04:44.700 --> 00:04:55.169

Chris Cagle: All right, thank you. Good morning, everyone. My name is Chris Cagle. I am the Director of Business Services and Apprenticeships at the South Bay Workforce Investment Board, and

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00:04:55.280 --> 00:04:58.419

Chris Cagle: Happy to be here, and looking forward to the conversation. Thank you.

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00:04:59.340 --> 00:05:02.170

Chioma Agbahiwe: Glad to have you. Okay, Ms. Glover?

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00:05:04.440 --> 00:05:13.199

Jolly Glover: Yes, hi. My name is Jolly Glover. I'm the Executive Director of File Like the Nego Outreach, Inc. We provide

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00:05:13.200 --> 00:05:29.599

Jolly Glover: Pre-employment training, life skills, mentoring, anything that has to do with, training and upskilling, participants and getting them job ready, including peer support, counseling as well.

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00:05:29.750 --> 00:05:42.200

Jolly Glover: Along with engagement. There's a whole lot that we do. But I just want to kind of, like, reconnect again, and that's the reason why I'm... I'm here.

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00:05:43.140 --> 00:05:50.130

Chioma Agbahiwe: Okay, glad to have you aboard, and glad to see you reconnecting with us. Okay, next we'll go to Alexis.

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00:05:51.800 --> 00:06:07.389

Alexis Keys: Thank you so much. Good morning, everyone. My name is Alexis. I am en route. I'm with Grid Alternatives, the workforce development department. We are working to, with the support of California Jobs First, build and report

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00:06:07.660 --> 00:06:32.589

Alexis Keys: on support for a Solar Plus Storage Resilience Center and Workforce Development Hub in South LA. Grid Alternatives is the nation's largest non-profit solar installer and job trainer. My colleague in community engagement, Stella, is here, I see. And we're so appreciative with California Jobs First, happy to be at this meeting. And, already instantly, Dr. Seal, I want to send you an email and see how Grid Alternatives Workforce Development

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00:06:32.590 --> 00:06:38.710

Alexis Keys: department could benefit from your culturally responsive workforce development programming, but happy to be here, thank you.

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00:06:39.640 --> 00:06:55.649

Chioma Agbahiwe: Okay, nice to meet you, Alexis, and yes, Stella is, one of our, you know, past chairs. She's been around since the beginning, and Grid Alternatives is, also one of our 26 Catalyst grantees, so glad to meet you, Alexis.

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00:06:55.870 --> 00:06:57.850

Chioma Agbahiwe: Next we'll go to Ms. Kelly.

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00:07:04.220 --> 00:07:06.759

Chioma Agbahiwe: And I believe we have Ms. Kelly... Oh, yep, there you go.

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00:07:06.760 --> 00:07:22.690

Kellie's iPhone: Kelly Todd Griffin with California Black Women's Collective Empowerment Institute. We, run SheWorks LA, which is a workforce development program for Black women who are

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00:07:22.690 --> 00:07:30.060

Kellie's iPhone: unemployed, underemployed, and system impacted, in Long Beach and South LA.

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00:07:31.720 --> 00:07:37.880

Chioma Agbahiwe: Awesome, glad to have Ms. Kelly Todd Griffin aboard. She is a part of our new 13-member

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00:07:38.010 --> 00:07:54.370

Chioma Agbahiwe: Isaac Committee? Is it 13 or 15? I'm so used to our 38-member steering committee, which sunsets in December, and now we have our Isaac committee, but we'll speak more about that in the coming slides. Okay, we have Margo.

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00:07:54.730 --> 00:08:08.639

Margo Scoble: Hey, good morning, thank you for having us. I'm Margot Scoville, I'm the Program Director for Managed Career Solutions, and we operate American Job Centers, throughout Southern California, particularly in Los Angeles City and for Los Angeles County. Thank you for having us.

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00:08:09.660 --> 00:08:20.349

Chioma Agbahiwe: Thank you. Thank you for being here. Thank you all for being here this early morning, Friday the 13th. We'll go ahead and get started, and also, I want to make sure that people see the,

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00:08:20.620 --> 00:08:27.170

Chioma Agbahiwe: Messages in the chat. We have quite a few from the AI bots, but we have some from actual people as well.

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00:08:27.170 --> 00:08:42.090

Chioma Agbahiwe: So, thank you. Please put your organization or... and make your connections in the chat as well. We do the intros, so that you all know who else is on the call, who else is a part of California Jobs First here in LA County.

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00:08:42.090 --> 00:09:01.999

Chioma Agbahiwe: And also, we want you to take a look at our website, lacerf, L-A-C-E-R-F dot org, because you can also see a list of our partners on the website. So please take a look, continue to make your connections, and we'll go ahead and get started. I see we have a few more people joining.

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00:09:02.260 --> 00:09:12.710

Chioma Agbahiwe: But we'll go ahead and get started. We have a full agenda. We have Beacon Economics here this morning, and I'll pass it to Arman, our research analyst, to introduce Beacon.

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00:09:13.910 --> 00:09:28.709

Arman Koohian: Thank you, Chioma, and good morning, everybody. Yeah, so I am going to be introducing Beacon Economics here to present a research report that they've just completed, and an asset map for the California Jobs First program here in LA County.

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00:09:28.810 --> 00:09:47.339

Arman Koohian: CJF from the Regional Plan Part 1 has always aimed to be a data-driven initiative, and also combining that with community feedback, and I think this report furthers that commitment that CJF has aimed to... aimed to meet. Of course, we have funding dedicated to research in the catalyst phase.

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00:09:47.420 --> 00:09:54.660

Arman Koohian: And through this report, we aim to provide programmatic updates, updated research from the Regional Plans Part 1 and Part 2,

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00:09:54.660 --> 00:10:10.930

Arman Koohian: and to provide a new accessible tool, which is another goal of the research, is that we often find some of this research and data are not very accessible. And so, without further ado, I'm going to introduce Beacon Economics and Stafford Nichols, who was working on the project and leading it.

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00:10:11.180 --> 00:10:21.040

Arman Koohian: They already worked with us in the Regional Plan Part 1, and they did some great work on the industry cluster analysis, and so I'm very happy to introduce them, and we'll pass it on to Stafford now.

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00:10:23.230 --> 00:10:41.989

Stafford Nichols: Good morning! Thank you very much, Armand. It's great to be able to see you all, even virtually. I'm going to share my screen and go through that awkward moment of doing so, where I try to figure this out. But please let me know, can you all see that?

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00:10:43.950 --> 00:10:44.670

Arman Koochian: Yes.

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00:10:45.190 --> 00:10:46.140

Stafford Nichols: Okay.

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00:10:48.320 --> 00:10:55.950

Stafford Nichols: And... I'll talk about the report that we did, as well as...

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00:10:56.840 --> 00:11:06.079

Stafford Nichols: our top-line findings in the report, and then also the asset maps, the tool that Armand was just talking about.

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00:11:07.160 --> 00:11:08.540

Stafford Nichols: And...

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00:11:09.350 --> 00:11:22.830

Stafford Nichols: I did have my email here on this first slide, so if there are any questions or follow-up information that anyone wants, please feel free to shoot me an email. More than happy to share as much as we can. So...

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00:11:23.340 --> 00:11:28.920

Stafford Nichols: The report is hot off the press. We just finished it up this week, and...

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00:11:29.200 --> 00:11:35.199

Stafford Nichols: Pretty happy with how it turned out. It's about 160 pages, so there is a lot of information in there.

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00:11:35.380 --> 00:11:51.870

Stafford Nichols: There's really 3 main sections. The first was written by the Jobs First team, so thank you very much for all of that information, Arman and the rest of your team. It lays out what the program is about.

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00:11:51.930 --> 00:12:07.110

Stafford Nichols: the context there then goes through the planning phase, catalyst phase, the implementation phase, talks about the governance structure and the organizations involved, so I think it really kind of sets up well what the program's all about.

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00:12:07.210 --> 00:12:08.670

Stafford Nichols: And then...

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00:12:08.880 --> 00:12:16.460

Stafford Nichols: at least half of the report is about the LA economy, and that's what Beacon focused on.

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00:12:16.630 --> 00:12:18.420

Stafford Nichols: looking at...

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00:12:18.510 --> 00:12:30.780

Stafford Nichols: the trends across the county as a whole, and kind of what's the main story going on there. And then also, in the next section, breaking it down into the individual service planning areas.

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00:12:30.830 --> 00:12:39.150

Stafford Nichols: Because obviously there's a lot of variation across the county, and so talking about challenges in one section and how they may differ from another.

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00:12:39.310 --> 00:12:48.519

Stafford Nichols: And then we also have a section on the sub-regional survey, so that was the survey that was conducted by California Jobs First.

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00:12:48.630 --> 00:12:50.810

Stafford Nichols: And what we did there was.

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00:12:51.060 --> 00:13:13.120

Stafford Nichols: analyze the data, pull out some high-level themes, and then also provide breakouts of pretty much every single question, and looking at it, again, by service planning area, so you can see how questions didn't, didn't vary, across the region. And I say didn't, didn't, because some, there was a lot of variation, and some there weren't. So those are, you know, topics that are

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00:13:13.120 --> 00:13:15.479

Stafford Nichols: Applicable, really, to the whole area.

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00:13:18.340 --> 00:13:30.900

Stafford Nichols: So, I am going to dive into the LA economy piece and share some of our top-line findings there, then... and then spend the last few minutes just showing the asset map tool.

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00:13:31.150 --> 00:13:32.080

Stafford Nichols: So...

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00:13:33.160 --> 00:13:44.630

Stafford Nichols: at a high level, the LA's economy and workforce, and I should mention that we really focused on the workforce in this analysis. I mean, we could have looked at,

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00:13:45.090 --> 00:13:56.930

Stafford Nichols: various, sort of, you know, capital structures and this and that, but we thought the workforce would be important, and jobs are important, since this is California Jobs First, after all. And...

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00:13:57.410 --> 00:14:06.560

Stafford Nichols: you know, if I had to summarize things, long-term, we are getting older, we're getting really into healthcare, and we're slowing down.

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00:14:06.560 --> 00:14:20.790

Stafford Nichols: So that's the long-term picture, and I'll explain that. Short-term, we are becoming smarter. We're becoming a little more artificial, quotes around that, of course, and then... and... but non-citizens are leaving the workforce.

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00:14:21.510 --> 00:14:24.130

Stafford Nichols: So, what do I mean by that?

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00:14:24.900 --> 00:14:29.550

Stafford Nichols: Well, this is the projected demographic,

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00:14:29.670 --> 00:14:38.209

Stafford Nichols: trend over the next 50 years, that first chart there on the left, and you can see that it's slowly declining. I do...

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00:14:38.840 --> 00:14:49.030

Stafford Nichols: I think it's useful to note that these demographic models, in my opinion, are a little pessimistic and tend to under,

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00:14:49.210 --> 00:14:57.350

Stafford Nichols: appreciate immigration influx. However, I think what's important to take away from this is there is not a...

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00:14:57.420 --> 00:15:07.740

Stafford Nichols: expected population growth, any sort of growth boom in the near future. And that has big implications in terms of schools, how many schools do you need to build?

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00:15:07.740 --> 00:15:20.400

Stafford Nichols: Thinking about pensions, thinking about long-term planning. Obviously, it's a lot harder to grow an economy if your population's not growing, so that's, something to take into account.

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00:15:20.400 --> 00:15:28.280

Stafford Nichols: And then maybe even more so, within those population changes over the next 50 years, we're gonna get older.

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00:15:28.650 --> 00:15:43.499

Stafford Nichols: So you can see that, in terms of the age brackets there on the right, the older age brackets will be growing, while the younger age brackets will be getting smaller. And the problem there is that the young... the people in the workforce

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00:15:44.040 --> 00:15:53.309

Stafford Nichols: provide the tax revenue, the income revenue, that provides social support to older folks. And so if you have smaller

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00:15:53.440 --> 00:16:00.479

Stafford Nichols: Number of young folks in the workforce, it gets harder to provide that.

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00:16:01.940 --> 00:16:06.260

Stafford Nichols: And this aging population

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00:16:06.520 --> 00:16:13.200

Stafford Nichols: is partially responsible for this next slide, which I think is maybe one of the most important things that we

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00:16:13.580 --> 00:16:15.140

Stafford Nichols: noticed.

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00:16:16.140 --> 00:16:20.700

Stafford Nichols: And... What this chart is showing is...

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00:16:21.400 --> 00:16:32.800

Stafford Nichols: Different than what you may see in a lot of media, because, if you look at the number of jobs created, this is the number of jobs created,

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00:16:32.900 --> 00:16:38.849

Stafford Nichols: By all industries, which is... are the green... the kind of, like, teal-colored bars.

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00:16:39.100 --> 00:16:42.299

Stafford Nichols: And then all the jobs created by just 3...

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00:16:42.520 --> 00:16:59.840

Stafford Nichols: industries, sectors, education, healthcare, and government, that's the blue line. And so what you see is that basically every single industry has been declining in terms of the number of jobs they're creating, and just education, healthcare, and government are increasing.

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00:17:00.290 --> 00:17:08.930

Stafford Nichols: And actually, if you look at the country as a whole, you see a similar trend. And I say this is a little different than what you might see in the media, is because

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00:17:09.349 --> 00:17:18.520

Stafford Nichols: Generally, the jobs numbers have been pretty good. Both in LA and across the country. There's been a good, steady number of jobs being created each month.

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00:17:19.339 --> 00:17:25.150

Stafford Nichols: But when you look under the hood and kind of split it in this way, you see that

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00:17:25.410 --> 00:17:28.750

Stafford Nichols: A lot of that job growth is coming from the public sector.

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00:17:28.790 --> 00:17:42.720

Stafford Nichols: So, education and government are absolutely the public sector. Healthcare is not exactly the public sector, but most of their funding comes from the public sector through Medicaid, Medicare, and other social programs.

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00:17:42.720 --> 00:17:50.149

Stafford Nichols: So, you know, in a strong, robust, growing economy, you want to see that private sector jobs going up, not just public sector.

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00:17:50.470 --> 00:18:00.990

Stafford Nichols: And so this partially explains why, I don't know if you all saw in the news, was it yesterday, about how they revised the job estimates last year.

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00:18:01.130 --> 00:18:06.810

Stafford Nichols: down by about a million, so I think it was 5 million was the,

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00:18:07.930 --> 00:18:16.260

Stafford Nichols: The initially reported jobs number for 2025, and then after more data came in and they revised it, is more like 4 million.

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00:18:16.650 --> 00:18:22.639

Stafford Nichols: So, that does not bode well, kind of just speaks to a softening economy and,

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00:18:23.030 --> 00:18:25.240

Stafford Nichols: Labor workforce.

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00:18:27.420 --> 00:18:39.249

Stafford Nichols: And healthcare is a big piece of this. Of that blue line, healthcare, it makes up most of the growth, and so the report has a section on that and goes into it in more detail.

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00:18:40.000 --> 00:18:54.539

Stafford Nichols: Another important factor that, frankly, pops up in every report that we tend to do at Beacon, whether we want it to or not in Los Angeles, is housing. Housing is just... it's the most expensive

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00:18:55.250 --> 00:19:02.339

Stafford Nichols: bill that every household pays each month, and so it's the biggest piece of our wallet, and so...

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00:19:03.280 --> 00:19:15.019

Stafford Nichols: it matters a lot, and in Los Angeles, housing is 60% more expensive than it is in the rest of the country, and so that just filters into all aspects of the economy.

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00:19:15.550 --> 00:19:27.639

Stafford Nichols: if it costs more for your rent, then you need to ask for more money from your employer, who needs to raise their prices to pay for that, which means things get more expensive. So,

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00:19:28.440 --> 00:19:47.640

Stafford Nichols: that's always a big issue, and if you look at the share of new construction, it's very low in the last few years, and so if there was more housing, you know, it's a supply and demand curve, right? If there was more housing, then it would be cheaper, but they're not building a lot of new housing, and so housing remains expensive.

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00:19:50.310 --> 00:19:52.520

Stafford Nichols: And this relates to...

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00:19:52.750 --> 00:20:03.530

Stafford Nichols: another long-term trend... I'm going to get into more short-term trends here in a minute, but just last long-term trend here. This is mobility across generations.

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00:20:05.530 --> 00:20:16.399

Stafford Nichols: So, the U.S. survey asks if you've moved in the last year or not. So that's where we got this data from, and what you can see is, if you go back to 1984, 1994,

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00:20:16.760 --> 00:20:21.619

Stafford Nichols: People who are 20 to 24 years old, or in their 20s.

139

00:20:21.720 --> 00:20:29.220

Stafford Nichols: you can see they moved a lot. You know, when we're young, we're moving around for education reasons, we're trying out new jobs.

140

00:20:29.460 --> 00:20:36.910

Stafford Nichols: maybe getting fired from our jobs, but as we get older, we settle down and tend to move less.

141

00:20:37.140 --> 00:20:45.869

Stafford Nichols: But what's startling is how significantly people are moving less now, as opposed to the past, and so...

142

00:20:46.260 --> 00:20:50.230

Stafford Nichols: For that first age bracket of 20 to 24, it's roughly half.

143

00:20:50.510 --> 00:20:56.470

Stafford Nichols: So there used to be about 35% of people moved in a year, now that's down to about 17-18%.

144

00:20:57.170 --> 00:21:02.779

Stafford Nichols: Oh, did I... can you all see my screen?

145

00:21:03.540 --> 00:21:05.989

Arman Koohian: Yeah, it seems to have gone into...

146

00:21:06.160 --> 00:21:08.019

Arman Koohian: Out of presenter mode.

147

00:21:08.500 --> 00:21:10.270

Stafford Nichols: Okay, I'm sorry, let me...

148

00:21:13.520 --> 00:21:15.289

Stafford Nichols: Launch it again.

149

00:21:16.000 --> 00:21:16.580

Arman Koohian: Okay.

150

00:21:31.970 --> 00:21:33.850

Stafford Nichols: Okay, are we back in...

151

00:21:34.350 --> 00:21:40.849

Arman Koohian: It's, it's not in the... oh, okay, now it looks like it's in the presenter mode. If you press... yeah, you're good to go.

152

00:21:40.850 --> 00:21:45.749

Stafford Nichols: Okay, alright, sorry about that. I don't think I touched anything. Anyway, sorry.

153

00:21:45.830 --> 00:21:57.559

Stafford Nichols: And so, the point here is that people are moving less, and a lot of that has to do with that housing... with housing costs. It's more expensive to move. Your rent rate tends to stay

154

00:21:57.560 --> 00:22:06.470

Stafford Nichols: lower and grow lower if you stay in one place. And so we think that's one of the reasons that people are moving less. Another one has to do with the fact that things are more digital.

155

00:22:06.470 --> 00:22:09.859

Stafford Nichols: And so, there's more work from home.

156

00:22:09.970 --> 00:22:13.919

Stafford Nichols: But still, declining mobility means that

157

00:22:14.910 --> 00:22:30.589

Stafford Nichols: there's less flexibility in the workforce, and people aren't moving to a job or area where they could really maximize their potential. I mean, you want, from a macro perspective, you want a very flexible workforce

158

00:22:30.590 --> 00:22:38.670

Stafford Nichols: which can shift to where there's the best return for them, and that helps the economy the most. And so having a less dynamic

159

00:22:38.800 --> 00:22:45.340

Stafford Nichols: Workforce, means less efficient. And that matters

160

00:22:45.570 --> 00:22:48.859

Stafford Nichols: to actually... I'll talk about AI here in a minute.

161

00:22:49.260 --> 00:22:51.439

Stafford Nichols: But that's one example.

162

00:22:51.660 --> 00:22:56.120

Stafford Nichols: We do have a section in the report to talk about immigration.

163

00:22:56.590 --> 00:23:10.030

Stafford Nichols: Obviously, it's very important in Los Angeles, the federal policies and how that's impacting the city and the county. LAEDC just put out a new report

164

00:23:10.150 --> 00:23:14.890

Stafford Nichols: Which Does an economic impact analysis on...

165

00:23:15.210 --> 00:23:24.390

Stafford Nichols: the federal immigration policies, and it's pretty... shows some pretty significant numbers. One thing we were doing is looking at

166

00:23:25.050 --> 00:23:37.049

Stafford Nichols: the number of non-citizens in the workforce, and basically you can see that starting in January, February of 2025,

167

00:23:37.280 --> 00:23:47.159

Stafford Nichols: this blue line started to decline. That's the number of non-citizens in the Los Angeles workforce. And that number has continued to decline.

168

00:23:47.650 --> 00:23:51.559

Stafford Nichols: And we show the number of citizens in the workforce, just to show you that

169

00:23:51.860 --> 00:23:59.980

Stafford Nichols: They... that has remained pretty much the same, so the non-citizens are declining while the rest of the workforce is not.

170

00:24:00.450 --> 00:24:02.329

Stafford Nichols: More in the report about that.

171

00:24:03.340 --> 00:24:09.150

Stafford Nichols: Ai is a hot topic, so we wanted to make sure we touch upon this as well.

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00:24:10.520 --> 00:24:20.050

Stafford Nichols: We have access to a dataset that looks at... that scrapes 50,000 job posting sites every day, and classifies

173

00:24:20.400 --> 00:24:25.140

Stafford Nichols: What types of skills and qualifications that employers are looking for.

174

00:24:25.840 --> 00:24:40.059

Stafford Nichols: And what we can see is that, artificial intelligence, in terms of being a criteria of job posting, was basically close to zero, starting... but then started in 2017 and 18, really shot up.

175

00:24:40.340 --> 00:24:44.190

Stafford Nichols: And it has continued to go up, kind of exponentially here.

176

00:24:46.910 --> 00:24:49.659

Stafford Nichols: Did I lose the screen again?

177

00:24:49.660 --> 00:24:51.559

Arman Koohian: No, it's okay.

178

00:24:51.560 --> 00:24:55.900

Stafford Nichols: Okay, Alan, be very careful, sorry.

179

00:24:57.170 --> 00:25:04.240

Stafford Nichols: So, it's only 1.7% of jobs, well, and this was back in June, July, are...

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00:25:05.100 --> 00:25:10.989

Stafford Nichols: putting artificial intelligence as a criteria of their job posting.

181

00:25:11.290 --> 00:25:16.069

Stafford Nichols: And I'm sure... but I'm sure that number's gotten higher. One thing that I think's interesting.

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00:25:16.890 --> 00:25:18.679

Stafford Nichols: If you look in the bottom right.

183

00:25:19.370 --> 00:25:26.519

Stafford Nichols: bullet points there. I think it shows a bifurcation in terms of what people are looking for, so...

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00:25:26.760 --> 00:25:34.850

Stafford Nichols: 38% of these jobs that say they want artificial intelligence experience do not require a college degree.

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00:25:35.360 --> 00:25:54.909

Stafford Nichols: 60% do, and 33% require a master's, but that 38%, you know, one way to look at that is that's an opportunity. People don't have to have higher levels of education if they have... if they know their way around artificial intelligence. And actually, 34% of jobs say no experience is necessary.

186

00:25:55.030 --> 00:26:01.489

Stafford Nichols: While there's kind of this other group, 45, say they at least want 4 years or greater. So I kind of look at that as.

187

00:26:01.900 --> 00:26:04.759

Stafford Nichols: If you can just use it.

188

00:26:04.990 --> 00:26:18.440

Stafford Nichols: pretty well, and navigate around it, and know how to apply it to things in a business, there's a good opportunity for you, even if you're not an expert at it. If you are an expert at it, well then, you know, there's a high demand, there's kind of a separate group there.

189

00:26:20.610 --> 00:26:28.999

Stafford Nichols: And then last, all this is, you know, education just correlates so much with every socioeconomic indicator, and...

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00:26:29.500 --> 00:26:36.179

Stafford Nichols: what we see is that over time, we're getting smarter. So this is the us getting smarter part.

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00:26:37.320 --> 00:26:48.159

Stafford Nichols: the level of educational attainment has been steadily rising, and if this chart went back in time, you could see that it's been rising for decades, which is great. And...

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00:26:48.370 --> 00:26:58.530

Stafford Nichols: It does look like it dipped a little bit from 2018 and 19 to today. However, our population was larger back then, and this is not percentage, this is total.

193

00:26:58.730 --> 00:27:09.250

Stafford Nichols: So proportionally, we've been getting a little bit smarter each year, which is great, and bodes well for, having, you know, a high-skilled workforce, which is, important.

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00:27:10.540 --> 00:27:15.390

Stafford Nichols: So, that's the sort of wrap-up of,

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00:27:16.090 --> 00:27:26.590

Stafford Nichols: the economic analysis that we included in the report. As I mentioned, there are different, subsections which go into things in much more detail.

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00:27:26.690 --> 00:27:28.700

Stafford Nichols: That's kind of a high level.

197

00:27:29.350 --> 00:27:35.889

Arman Koohian: Stafford, I was wondering, we do have... One question in the chat.

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00:27:36.120 --> 00:27:45.069

Arman Koohian: The question is, does the non-citizen demographic include green card holders as well? Does the label refer only to undocumented individuals?

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00:27:45.910 --> 00:27:51.959

Stafford Nichols: It's not just undocumented individuals, it does include...

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00:27:52.250 --> 00:28:00.120

Stafford Nichols: green card holders, and all kind of non-citizens. Again, the report does break that down.

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00:28:00.340 --> 00:28:03.859

Stafford Nichols: I don't remember those numbers off the top of my head, though.

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00:28:04.260 --> 00:28:11.469

Arman Koohian: Okay, okay, no problem. And just quick heads up for everybody, we're gonna quickly also go over the immigration report after the asset maps, but...

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00:28:11.470 --> 00:28:12.530

Stafford Nichols: Oh, okay.

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00:28:12.530 --> 00:28:14.540

Arman Koohian: Yeah, yeah. Okay, back to you, Sefer, thank you.

205

00:28:17.350 --> 00:28:18.390

Stafford Nichols: Okay.

206

00:28:20.190 --> 00:28:25.960

Stafford Nichols: So, let me share my other screen now, which has the asset maps.

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00:28:36.280 --> 00:28:37.820

Stafford Nichols: And you can see this.

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00:28:37.820 --> 00:28:38.530

Arman Koohian: Yes.

209

00:28:38.750 --> 00:28:39.530

Stafford Nichols: Okay.

210

00:28:39.810 --> 00:28:43.540

Stafford Nichols: So, we put together 6 different Maths.

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00:28:44.020 --> 00:28:50.150

Stafford Nichols: And... But the idea that there'll probably be a broad

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00:28:50.350 --> 00:28:58.359

Stafford Nichols: number of... kind of group of people using this, so have, sort of, a wide array of functionality.

213

00:29:00.160 --> 00:29:08.209

Stafford Nichols: We have a map that has regional assets, which I will show, and then commercial parcels and industrial parcels.

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00:29:08.620 --> 00:29:25.559

Stafford Nichols: The commercial parcels map has literally every single commercial piece of land in the whole county, and has information about it. The industrial parcel map has every single industrial piece of land, property, and information about it.

215

00:29:25.670 --> 00:29:29.019

Stafford Nichols: So I'll click on those in a second, but just...

216

00:29:29.200 --> 00:29:41.920

Stafford Nichols: Oh, and then also, all of these are organized by, kind of, two high-level administrative jurisdictions, whether that's either the service planning area, the spas, or the supervisorial district.

217

00:29:42.680 --> 00:29:45.820

Stafford Nichols: So to start with, the...

218

00:29:46.240 --> 00:29:56.359

Stafford Nichols: asset map here for regional assets. We know that the strategic sectors that you all identified are very important, so we have information on each one of those.

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00:29:56.680 --> 00:30:01.610

Stafford Nichols: And before I dive into that, I'll note that here you can see this overlay.

220

00:30:02.360 --> 00:30:21.399

Stafford Nichols: That shows you general statistics about each of the spas, so if you want to know the number of bachelor's degrees in each spa, it'll show you that and a bar graph here for those. You can look at the poverty rate in each spa, and so see how these statistics change throughout the county.

221

00:30:23.680 --> 00:30:28.860

Stafford Nichols: And then I can take that away if I just want to...

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00:30:29.210 --> 00:30:45.730

Stafford Nichols: focus on some of the other information here. So, if I care about, say, aerospace manufacturing, and bioscience, I can click those, and it will show me every single company in the county

223

00:30:46.060 --> 00:30:54.209

Stafford Nichols: In those sectors. And the larger the icon, the bigger the company. So, we can see how many employees each one has.

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00:30:54.440 --> 00:30:56.579

Stafford Nichols: The bioscience is the little...

225

00:30:57.060 --> 00:31:06.670

Stafford Nichols: beaker there. And again, we have renewable energy, construction, healthcare, transportation and logistics, and video production and distribution.

226

00:31:08.400 --> 00:31:18.009

Stafford Nichols: We also have these other assets included here, because maybe you care about, job training centers.

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00:31:18.420 --> 00:31:22.060

Stafford Nichols: We'll hear all the job training centers in the county.

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00:31:22.280 --> 00:31:30.390

Stafford Nichols: Or you... you want libraries, you can include that as well. So the map gets a little...

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00:31:30.550 --> 00:31:44.219

Stafford Nichols: clustered or cluttered, I mean, at the high level, but you can zoom in and kind of see where all these things are located and navigate around. Obviously, there's a lot to click on here, so I won't go through all of it today, but just want to sort of show

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00:31:44.220 --> 00:31:59.940

Stafford Nichols: what type of information is available. I think one way to think about these is, it's kind of just like an easy way to get at a database. Really, this is just...

there's a lot of data. There's something like 300,000 data points behind this, and this just, I think, makes it easily accessible.

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00:32:01.450 --> 00:32:10.750

Stafford Nichols: So, if I go to the, let's say, the industrial parcel here, this will give us...

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00:32:12.870 --> 00:32:20.399

Stafford Nichols: Every industrial property in the county, and information on each one.

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00:32:21.860 --> 00:32:25.499

Stafford Nichols: So, if I care about, say, general industrial use.

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00:32:26.010 --> 00:32:35.080

Stafford Nichols: It will tell me exactly where Each of those properties is... And...

235

00:32:35.870 --> 00:32:43.049

Stafford Nichols: information about each... each one. So, it gives you... well, it gives you the... the size, and then the assessor's,

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00:32:43.140 --> 00:32:56.369

Stafford Nichols: property number, so you can always look that up for more information if you want more there. But maybe you care about also, from a workforce perspective, you know, how easy is it to access these areas?

237

00:32:56.410 --> 00:33:03.670

Stafford Nichols: Well, we have transportation network information included here, so every bus line in the county is included.

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00:33:03.850 --> 00:33:12.650

Stafford Nichols: And... This tells you... More information about each of those... oops, sorry.

239

00:33:13.110 --> 00:33:13.930

Stafford Nichols: there's...

240

00:33:18.550 --> 00:33:23.850

Stafford Nichols: And again, we can add more, more...

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00:33:24.110 --> 00:33:27.410

Stafford Nichols: Types of, sectors, if we care about those.

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00:33:29.370 --> 00:33:34.870

Stafford Nichols: But also we have the metro lines included, railways,

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00:33:35.880 --> 00:33:44.639

Stafford Nichols: Metrolink, Truck Routes, etc. And if you scroll over any of these, it'll tell you which bus line it is, in this example.

244

00:33:45.040 --> 00:33:48.040

Stafford Nichols: and then... last...

245

00:33:49.020 --> 00:33:58.309

Stafford Nichols: Just to round it out, here's the commercial parcels. So this will show you about every commercial parcel in the county.

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00:33:58.310 --> 00:34:10.939

Stafford Nichols: But here you can see it's organized, the top layer by supervisorial districts, so if you want information about... at that level, you could use this series of maps.

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00:34:13.750 --> 00:34:19.129

Stafford Nichols: So, that is kind of the high-level of these asset maps.

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00:34:21.040 --> 00:34:27.359

Stafford Nichols: there's a lot to play around with there, but I thought I'll just kind of introduce them, and then,

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00:34:27.630 --> 00:34:30.519

Stafford Nichols: Happy to hear any feedback you all have.

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00:34:31.149 --> 00:34:43.749

Arman Koochian: Yeah, Stafford, thank you so much. That was very helpful, and yeah, we hope these asset maps can be just a useful tool for economic development, workforce development in the region.

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00:34:43.859 --> 00:34:53.209

Arman Koochian: Yeah, we can dedicate maybe a few minutes here to any questions, and of course, I'll share my email as well, if anyone has questions or,

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00:34:53.339 --> 00:35:00.439

Arman Koochian: Maybe they have concerns about how to use the asset map, so if possible, please just put a question in the chat.

253

00:35:00.549 --> 00:35:08.689

Arman Koohian: and or raise your hand. And so it looks like we have one question here. Where will these be hosted?

254

00:35:09.209 --> 00:35:24.199

Arman Koohian: So, they are on Tableau, and we will have a link to them on our website, and I think, previously we've done it on our website, where we have it actually embedded in, but, in case that there's a performance issue, it will all be on our website, and so...

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00:35:25.839 --> 00:35:35.429

Arman Koohian: that's where that will be. And, Stafford, we... we could hope to probably release this, maybe today or sometime early next week, is that... is that right?

256

00:35:36.060 --> 00:35:37.020

Stafford Nichols: Yes, that's right.

257

00:35:37.020 --> 00:35:44.599

Arman Koohian: Okay. Yeah, so we will share the links after the call for the report and the, and the asset maps.

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00:35:45.060 --> 00:35:52.390

Arman Koohian: Looks like we have another question here. Any data on non-citizen business creation slash job creation change over time?

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00:35:57.020 --> 00:36:03.100

Stafford Nichols: I don't know if we have that in our report.

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00:36:04.380 --> 00:36:07.829

Stafford Nichols: Oh, it's certainly not on the asset maps, but

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00:36:09.990 --> 00:36:15.900

Stafford Nichols: I think we, you know, we speak to the idea that, you know, immigrants have been a leading

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00:36:16.220 --> 00:36:27.389

Stafford Nichols: force in terms of business creation in the United States. That's pretty well documented. But I don't know if we have specifics about that in the report.

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00:36:28.490 --> 00:36:35.270

Arman Koohian: Okay, thank you. And yeah, I will also be reviewing, the immigration enforcement report.

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00:36:35.410 --> 00:36:38.319

Arman Koohian: Shortly and briefly, so that's something else to read as well.

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00:36:40.310 --> 00:36:46.499

Arman Koohian: I guess, going once, going twice, see if we have any more questions, because we do have quite a few other things to get over... to go over today.

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00:36:46.620 --> 00:36:49.680

Arman Koohian: Okay, so I think this could be our last question here.

267

00:36:49.800 --> 00:36:59.250

Arman Koohian: Does the non-citizen demographic... oh, yes, Luke, we answered that question. Stafford, could you please go over that again, what the non-citizen demographic refers to?

268

00:37:02.770 --> 00:37:06.969

Stafford Nichols: In... in terms of...

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00:37:06.970 --> 00:37:10.430

Arman Koohian: Does it... does it include green card holders as well?

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00:37:10.430 --> 00:37:12.390

Stafford Nichols: Oh, yes, it does, it does.

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00:37:14.390 --> 00:37:31.889

Arman Koohian: All right. Well, thank you so much, Stafford and Beacon, for all the work. We hope that you all will stay engaged. Of course, you guys are also partners of the program, so, we'll be in contact. And I'll put my email as well in the chat. Stafford shared this email earlier. We'll be sharing the recordings and the,

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00:37:32.580 --> 00:37:35.010

Arman Koohian: And the report and the SMF.

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00:37:35.970 --> 00:37:43.409

Arman Koohian: So, and, I do see your question, Dr. Michelle Yanez.

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00:37:43.560 --> 00:37:45.750

Arman Koohian: Stephanie, is it okay if we take one more question here?

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00:37:45.750 --> 00:37:46.470

Stafford Nichols: Sure.

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00:37:46.620 --> 00:37:50.400

Arman Koohian: Why does education continue to increase while enrollment is down?

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00:37:52.780 --> 00:38:01.209

Stafford Nichols: That's a good question, and part of that has to do with people with higher educational attainment moving into Los Angeles.

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00:38:02.210 --> 00:38:06.160

Stafford Nichols: And so, actually, if you look at,

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00:38:07.090 --> 00:38:13.290

Stafford Nichols: The number of jobs that required a college education in Los Angeles, about 20 years ago.

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00:38:13.460 --> 00:38:29.420

Stafford Nichols: it was about 40% required a college education, and 60% did not. And then if you fast forward to today, it's basically switched. So now about 60% of jobs require a bachelor's degree or higher.

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00:38:29.470 --> 00:38:37.469

Stafford Nichols: And if you look at immigration and... And migration.

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00:38:38.230 --> 00:38:49.050

Stafford Nichols: In Los Angeles County, we see that folks who are moving in tend to have higher levels of education, and folks who are moving out tend to have lower levels of education.

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00:38:49.170 --> 00:38:51.560

Stafford Nichols: And...

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00:38:51.980 --> 00:39:01.140

Stafford Nichols: I could... we could go into that for a while, about why that is, but again, part of it has to do with high cost of living. You kind of have to have...

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00:39:01.140 --> 00:39:16.089

Stafford Nichols: a higher degree to be able to get a job to live in a more expensive city, and if you can't, then you're moving to some of these, areas, you know, Texas, Nevada, New Mexico, where things are a little cheaper.

286

00:39:17.550 --> 00:39:18.140

Arman Koochian: Okay.

287

00:39:18.630 --> 00:39:22.699

Arman Koohian: Thank you, Stafford, and thank you, Dr. Yanez, for the question.

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00:39:22.850 --> 00:39:28.479

Arman Koohian: And yeah, so thank you again. I'm gonna... we're gonna proceed now with the presentation. Thanks, Jeffrey.

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00:39:32.000 --> 00:39:45.859

Arman Koohian: And so, in the sphere of research, just another thing we're going to quickly highlight here is the economic impacts of Federal Immigration Enforcement in LA County study that was just released by the Institute for Applied Economics.

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00:39:45.920 --> 00:39:57.680

Arman Koohian: Of course, this report is focused on that June intensification of federal immigration enforcement in the LA County region, where 3.5 million immigrants do reside.

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00:39:59.220 --> 00:40:13.149

Arman Koohian: This report does propose, and it does highlight some really key data points, such as the fact that undocumented workers in the region generate \$253.9 billion annually.

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00:40:13.300 --> 00:40:14.740

Arman Koohian: That's very...

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00:40:14.890 --> 00:40:21.319

Arman Koohian: high number, that's about 17% of the county's economic output. They support over 1 million jobs in the region.

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00:40:21.480 --> 00:40:38.379

Arman Koohian: 82% of businesses, and so, just to give you an idea, in the report, they did a survey of businesses, and so they received over 300 responses, and so 82% of these businesses reported negative impacts. Many saw sharp declines in sales and customer traffic.

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00:40:38.500 --> 00:40:51.409

Arman Koohian: They also have an economic impact section in Sections 5 and 6, and so the report is very thorough. Please give it a read, and we'll provide a link at some point in the chat and later on.

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00:40:51.540 --> 00:40:55.100

Arman Koohian: And with that, I will pass it back to, Chioma.

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00:40:56.890 --> 00:40:58.770

Chioma Agbahiwe: Alrighty, thank you, Armand.

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00:40:59.450 --> 00:41:02.410

Chioma Agbahiwe: That was a lot of information there, some good information to have.

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00:41:02.860 --> 00:41:08.989

Chioma Agbahiwe: And the link for the immigration report, I believe, will put in the chat as well.

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00:41:09.270 --> 00:41:13.490

Chioma Agbahiwe: That you can find, on LAEDC's website.

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00:41:13.900 --> 00:41:27.459

Chioma Agbahiwe: Okay, so next, we'll continue on to our regional, statewide, institutional efforts. So, as many of you know, California Jobs First program.

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00:41:27.690 --> 00:41:47.579

Chioma Agbahiwe: the... we're in the catalyst phase, and so we're in the catalyst phase of the grant, and it ends in September of this year. And so there's a lot of efforts taking place regionally and statewide for us to be able to continue with the initiative. Our region

303

00:41:47.700 --> 00:41:52.550

Chioma Agbahiwe: has a massive collaborative of over 800 partners, and other regions have

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00:41:52.680 --> 00:42:03.169

Chioma Agbahiwe: amassed different collaborative, sizes as well, joining forces and bringing forth partners, to the CJF table.

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00:42:03.830 --> 00:42:10.580

Chioma Agbahiwe: Okay, so here, I want to share some of the updates that are taking place.

306

00:42:11.100 --> 00:42:13.400

Chioma Agbahiwe: We have a few things,

307

00:42:13.970 --> 00:42:23.559

Chioma Agbahiwe: We have, so I'll go here. So, through the California Stewardship Network and California Forward, the Regions Up effort.

308

00:42:24.090 --> 00:42:36.579

Chioma Agbahiwe: They are... they're taking interviews of different regions to see what we're doing, to get the voice of our regions, to see what we can do to all collaborate, and to,

309

00:42:36.910 --> 00:42:38.560

Chioma Agbahiwe: Show our impact.

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00:42:38.810 --> 00:42:45.539

Chioma Agbahiwe: And so that we continue our efforts, past the end of September, when the grant

311

00:42:45.800 --> 00:42:57.699

Chioma Agbahiwe: ends. The goal is to support long-term program sustainability, identify shared advocacy and education opportunities, and explore stronger cross-regional coordination.

312

00:42:57.940 --> 00:43:02.589

Chioma Agbahiwe: So what we have here in the Los Angeles region, Los Angeles County region.

313

00:43:02.720 --> 00:43:17.490

Chioma Agbahiwe: confirmed interest in continuing participation in the statewide regional coalition. LAEDC has expressed willingness to continue serving as regional convener for the CJF Initiative. I've indicated

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00:43:17.670 --> 00:43:31.920

Chioma Agbahiwe: That a no-cost extension would be beneficial, while long-term funding strategies are identified, have noted partial and continued alignment, with our K-16 initiatives.

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00:43:31.990 --> 00:43:45.179

Chioma Agbahiwe: That planning, to begin internal fundraising efforts are taking place. Planning, there's expressed interest in participating in statewide legislative education and advocacy engagement.

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00:43:45.250 --> 00:43:57.280

Chioma Agbahiwe: And, another response has been indicated, maybe interest in, contributing to pooled statewide marketing and communications funding. So.

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00:43:57.280 --> 00:44:14.779

Chioma Agbahiwe: This feedback has come from our ISAC committee, our working groups that have been taking place. We've been getting feedback from many of the partners here on the call. You have provided your feedback. The overall takeaway we have here, though, is Los Angeles remains committed to ongoing regional

318

00:44:15.440 --> 00:44:29.619

Chioma Agbahiwe: leadership, sustainability planning, and participation in coordinated statewide advocacy and participation efforts to continue the institutionalization of the California Jobs First initiative in our region.

319

00:44:29.850 --> 00:44:44.300

Chioma Agbahiwe: I'll go to the next slide, because we want to make sure all of you are aware of the different efforts taking place. Insights from our state partners and California Forward. So, the California Forward Regents Up Working Group

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00:44:44.300 --> 00:44:58.129

Chioma Agbahiwe: is advancing coordinated short, mid-, and long-term strategies to sustain and strengthen California Jobs First, and institutionalize a durable regions-driven economic development system.

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00:44:58.160 --> 00:45:10.109

Chioma Agbahiwe: And so you see here the short-term, the mid-term, and the long-term. You have the stabilization, you have the budget and policy action, and then you have the long-term system institutionalization.

322

00:45:11.870 --> 00:45:25.970

Chioma Agbahiwe: I see questions in the chat, so we'll talk about that as well. But take a look at the different strategies that are taking place regionally and, statewide.

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00:45:26.060 --> 00:45:36.179

Chioma Agbahiwe: Through a coordinated effort, to extend the impact and the work that is being done across all 13 regions of California Jobs First.

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00:45:36.400 --> 00:45:38.870

Chioma Agbahiwe: We'll go to the next slide.

325

00:45:40.020 --> 00:45:43.089

Chioma Agbahiwe: We also want to bring attention to a trailer bill.

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00:45:43.640 --> 00:45:55.269

Chioma Agbahiwe: That's out right now. So, the Office of Regional Economic Development Initiative. We want to make sure you all are aware of efforts taking place in Sacramento as well.

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00:45:55.570 --> 00:45:58.720

Chioma Agbahiwe: So what this trailer bill does is proposes to add

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00:45:59.000 --> 00:46:11.110

Chioma Agbahiwe: Article 4.7, you'll see here, it creates a new Office of Regional Economic Development Initiatives within the GO-Biz agency.

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00:46:11.420 --> 00:46:29.620

Chioma Agbahiwe: Institutionalizes regions-based economic development coordination, including California Jobs First-related activities. Why this matters? It establishes a permanent state home for the regional initiatives, like California Jobs First.

330

00:46:29.840 --> 00:46:37.100

Chioma Agbahiwe: It enables statewide coordination of regional collaboratives, investments, and implementation efforts.

331

00:46:37.230 --> 00:46:40.380

Chioma Agbahiwe: And it supports a long-time sustainability

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00:46:40.500 --> 00:46:57.890

Chioma Agbahiwe: of regional economic development work beyond the current administration. So for context, it proposed... it was proposed through the state budget trailer bill process to formally, formally institutionalize regional economic development efforts.

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00:46:58.470 --> 00:47:00.809

Chioma Agbahiwe: We'll go to the next slide.

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00:47:02.190 --> 00:47:06.580

Chioma Agbahiwe: Okay, and so here, I'll pass it to...

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00:47:06.910 --> 00:47:26.539

Chioma Agbahiwe: Alan, but first, Sharon's question is, what is meant by internal fundraising efforts? Well, all of the 13 regions are working to see what they can do, as

far as fundraising efforts go, and so here in LA County, saying, we're all seeing what we can do,

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00:47:26.540 --> 00:47:30.260

Chioma Agbahiwe: To raise funds, because we don't know

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00:47:30.260 --> 00:47:49.100

Chioma Agbahiwe: If the new state budget will include funds. We don't know how the trailer bill will go, so we're trying to make sure that all strategies are, fulfilled here, and making sure that we can continue the work that, has began and that we've been doing here.

338

00:47:49.740 --> 00:47:52.750

Chioma Agbahiwe: Okay, so I'll pass it to Alan, who,

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00:47:53.240 --> 00:48:01.039

Chioma Agbahiwe: And then we'll pass it to Steph as well to speak on our Isaac Committee and our working groups and what we're doing here in LA County.

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00:48:01.330 --> 00:48:02.809

Chioma Agbahiwe: Alan, take it away.

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00:48:02.810 --> 00:48:20.610

Alan Cheam: Thank you, Chioma. So yeah, we're gonna go ahead and provide updates on the Investment and Sustainability Advisory Committee, specifically recapping the working group's first kickoff meetings that have happened this month. So I'll go ahead and pass it off to Steph to go ahead and congratulate our new committee.

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00:48:21.420 --> 00:48:35.820

Estefania (Estef): Thanks, Ellen. Hi, everybody. Thanks for joining the call. My name's Estefania. I'm a Senior Program Officer with the California Community Foundation. As many of you know, CCF serves as a fiscal sponsor for California Jobs First in the LA area.

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00:48:35.820 --> 00:48:54.979

Estefania (Estef): And we're really excited to welcome this ISAAC committee. ISAC stands for Investment Sustainability Advisory Committee. We have these 15 groups of folks that are going to be joining and spearheading what the post-California Jobs First work will look like.

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00:48:55.350 --> 00:49:19.059

Estefania (Estef): So we have the ISAC committee, and then we also have three main working groups. The first one is Funding Sustainability and partnerships. Through ISAC and through the working groups, we really believe that we can, kind of, join our efforts to strategize and advocate for the long-term continuity of the work that we've all been joining in on.

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00:49:19.190 --> 00:49:28.920

Estefania (Estef): So CCF will be providing support for the first working group, which is funding sustainability and partnership. By support, I mean, like, administrative support.

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00:49:29.170 --> 00:49:49.890

Estefania (Estef): So, want to give a shout out to our co-chair, the co-chair of this working committee, which is Libby Williams. We're also joined by Efrain, Andrea Slater, Kelly Lobianco, and Monica Behnken. These will be the core five, as we're calling them, for the Working Group 1, Sustainability Funding and Partnerships.

347

00:49:50.090 --> 00:50:05.630

Estefania (Estef): We did have our first meeting last week, and during the meeting, the group did emphasize that this playbook, which is our big deliverable, we're calling it the Sustainability and Partnerships Playbook. I think it's a... yeah.

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00:50:05.630 --> 00:50:18.949

Estefania (Estef): It's going to, be, something that will, will join efforts to, think of strategies to, advance, like I'm saying, the California Jobs First work.

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00:50:19.130 --> 00:50:36.250

Estefania (Estef): The group did emphasize that the playbook should be designed to look beyond the current political moment, and to support the long-term sustainability of the efforts. To give you context of the timeline, we will be convening for the next 7 months, so starting

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00:50:36.250 --> 00:50:50.070

Estefania (Estef): this month, February through August 2026, to develop this playbook, and, deliver it to the ISAC committee, as well as you all, for your review and,

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00:50:50.440 --> 00:51:12.840

Estefania (Estef): feedback. If you're interested in joining Working Group 1, we have our next meeting on Tuesday, March 3rd. I believe the LADC team will drop the link to join the conversation. We really hope that you are, you know, willing to join in and build this out together. So with that, I will pass it back to Alan.

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00:51:13.740 --> 00:51:24.589

Alan Cheam: Thank you so much, Estef. Appreciate the recap of Working Group 1. So now we'll move into just a quick recap of Working Group 2, which is the Policy and Advocacy Working Group.

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00:51:24.760 --> 00:51:42.780

Alan Cheam: And so, in contrast, the Policy and Advocacy Working Group is focused on their primary deliverable of the Policy Advocacy and Impact Playbook, so that is intended to really strengthen regional alignment, as well as develop coherent policy and public narrative.

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00:51:42.820 --> 00:51:58.830

Alan Cheam: So some of the potential outputs include, identifying some of the intersections between our regional plan, as well as the state's frameworks to develop, as well as develop some policy recommendations, for regional coordination, funding, as well as workforce.

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00:51:59.270 --> 00:52:08.420

Alan Cheam: Other outputs that we intend to yield from this working group is to develop a shared messaging or outreach tool.

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00:52:08.420 --> 00:52:19.609

Alan Cheam: as well as a simple policy tracker, and potentially two to three advocacy actions in this playbook to help create a cohesive regional branding for LA County's collaborative.

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00:52:20.350 --> 00:52:34.699

Alan Cheam: And lastly, the establishment of core impact metrics, as well as some short narrative briefs, paired with lightweight state-regional coordination approach, which can come in the form of a quarterly briefing, or potentially a shared data check-in.

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00:52:34.780 --> 00:52:46.880

Alan Cheam: So that's just an overview of what the working group is. So kind of moving into the recap of the first Working Group 2 meeting, the group had

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00:52:46.880 --> 00:52:58.100

Alan Cheam: several discussion points, that included, number one being, what was the most valuable thing that has come out of this initiative thus far? And so the working group

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00:52:58.120 --> 00:53:09.410

Alan Cheam: Responded with regional connection, collaboration, alignment, expanded access for smaller organizations, strong regional visibility.

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00:53:09.640 --> 00:53:30.050

Alan Cheam: We also discussed some key risks that were identified if this initiative is not sustained past the closeout, which is, you know, the loss of momentum in the partnerships that we've developed over the past few years, fragmented sector strategies, as well as a weakened advocacy voice.

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00:53:30.510 --> 00:53:47.610

Alan Cheam: Some priorities that were identified to carry forward in this working group included a regional convening infrastructure, like we have now, sector activation and cross-sector partnerships in relation to our activation plans, data sharing and coordinated strategy.

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00:53:47.610 --> 00:54:00.490

Alan Cheam: And with all of those priorities that we wish to carry forward, there was also some support that was identified, which included advocacy materials, capacity building, legislative engagement tools.

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00:54:00.530 --> 00:54:14.790

Alan Cheam: So overall, the Working Group 2 feedback, will guide this policy and advocacy playbook, shaping the shared priorities and the coordinated strategies to help, advance and sustain this work past the program's closeout.

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00:54:17.630 --> 00:54:28.430

Alan Cheam: And so, just speaking on next steps, I know as Steph had mentioned, the next Working Group 1 meeting, just, we have it here for you, and we'll also include this in the follow-up meeting... meeting, or meeting recap.

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00:54:28.460 --> 00:54:43.409

Alan Cheam: So the recommendations and feedback from those two working groups will actually be funneled and provided to our 15 ISAC representatives who will be meeting at the end of each month. So their first meeting will be in February at the end of February.

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00:54:43.670 --> 00:55:01.869

Alan Cheam: The upcoming Working Group 1 meeting, is on March 3rd at 1pm. The upcoming Working Group 2 meeting is on March 10th at 1pm. And for the BRIM Industry Working Groups, we know that you all are excited to participate in those as well, and we'll be sending the meeting dates as we develop them.

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00:55:03.620 --> 00:55:10.699

Alan Cheam: And so, moving on to an update for the implementation round two is the California Jobs First State Investment Summit.

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00:55:10.740 --> 00:55:35.530

Alan Cheam: So this investment summit was also held last year in Round 1. Gobiz is the entity that's hosting it in Sacramento. It's a two-day information conference where Round 2 final applicants are being invited to the summit and will have the opportunity to pitch their projects to investors, as well as have access to a variety of different information in these two days, including

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00:55:35.530 --> 00:55:40.369

Alan Cheam: Public financing, workforce development in relation to tech and innovation.

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00:55:40.370 --> 00:55:45.300

Alan Cheam: As well as, tools to attract global investment, as well as support local businesses.

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00:55:45.300 --> 00:55:50.309

Alan Cheam: Just for clarification, this summit is an invite-only

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00:55:50.310 --> 00:56:08.559

Alan Cheam: event, and so GoBiz will be sending those invites out. We just wanted to make sure that the collaborative is aware, so you all have context on where implementation round two is. Shortly after the summit, we do expect that the awards should be published, however, we haven't received

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00:56:08.560 --> 00:56:11.179

Alan Cheam: Final information from GoBiz directly.

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00:56:12.900 --> 00:56:21.229

Alan Cheam: And I know we're at 9.56, but we will do our best to try to run through some regional spotlights, and so I'll pass it to Armand to take it away.

376

00:56:21.680 --> 00:56:40.079

Arman Koohian: Thank you, Alan. And so the first one we're going to go over is the LAEDC 2026 Annual Economic Forecast. Of course, this is sort of one of the LAEDC signature events, where they go over the economic state of the country, the state of California, and the Los Angeles County region.

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00:56:40.080 --> 00:56:46.880

Arman Koohian: It is gonna be at Glendale Community College in, about 12 days, Thursday, February 25th.

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00:56:46.910 --> 00:56:58.850

Arman Koohian: That is an event that's gonna go on 8.30am to 2 p.m. Currently, there is one breakout room focused on healthcare and another on infrastructure, with, some very,

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00:56:58.950 --> 00:57:13.320

Arman Koohian: some of the leaders of the region, such as the LA Metro CEO, Stephanie Wiggins, will be in one of those breakout sessions, LA Care CEO as well. And so please check it out. We will be sending out information for that shortly. We can go to the next one.

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00:57:13.480 --> 00:57:17.609

Arman Koohian: Another LAEDC event that we'd like to highlight here is the Future Forum.

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00:57:17.610 --> 00:57:39.100

Arman Koohian: This Future Forum, the location is TBD, but it's going to be in March. This one is a special edition of the Future Forum that will bring together the Chancellor's Office, LAEDC leadership, and the presidents of the CSU-5. So they will be having a breakout panel where they'll be featuring one representative from each of the five CSUs in the CSU-5.

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00:57:39.260 --> 00:57:43.530

Arman Koohian: Exploring regional economic development and inclusive growth.

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00:57:43.640 --> 00:57:53.599

Arman Koohian: the preparation of students for AI enables future-ready careers, and other, really topics that are closely related to the California Jobs First program.

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00:57:53.900 --> 00:57:55.899

Arman Koohian: We can just go to the next one here.

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00:57:56.340 --> 00:58:11.800

Arman Koohian: And so I can... I guess I can go over this one as well. This is the Wildfire Survivor Serving Organizations, so this is relevant for them. The Pasadena Convention Center will be hosting a free event on Saturday, February 21st.

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00:58:11.800 --> 00:58:28.959

Arman Koohian: This event is community-centered gathering for residents, leaders, builders, and recovery partners. It is a space to reflect, heal, and reconnect with the focus on health, well-being, financial recovery, and rebuilding homes. It's an opportunity to hear from community members and on-the-ground experts

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00:58:28.960 --> 00:58:42.849

Arman Koohian: And it will also have a resource fair with trusted support. And so, this is a key event for wildfire survivor-serving organizations and anyone interested in that at the convention center. We can go to the next one.

388

00:58:43.870 --> 00:58:56.649

Arman Koohian: And, this one is the BizFed Institute Business Access to Funding Summit. And I think Mr. Harbor is on the call. Mr. Harbor, if you're on the call and you want to come off mute and speak about it, please go ahead.

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00:58:57.350 --> 00:59:15.179

Kevin Harbour: Thank you so much, I appreciate that. So, yeah, we are convening this summit on March 26th. It's going to be very informative. The whole idea is to provide access to funding from multiple entities, whether it be CDFIs.

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00:59:15.180 --> 00:59:30.469

Kevin Harbour: Of which, we have several participants, like LAEDC, Vermont Slauson Economic Development Corp, Pace, and PCR, and then also, some of the big banks, like BMO, Bank of America, and Chase.

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00:59:31.050 --> 00:59:54.890

Kevin Harbour: Our keynote speaker will be Miguel Santana, which a lot of you, who a lot of you are familiar with, as well as we have our State Treasurer, Fiona Ma, coming down to speak to you all. So, this is an opportunity to get up close and personal. We'll have some breakout time and networking, so that after you get some of the informative,

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00:59:54.890 --> 00:59:55.550

Kevin Harbour: But...

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00:59:55.800 --> 01:00:07.920

Kevin Harbour: presentations and coaching, you'll have a chance to get close, up close and personal and talk to these folks. I did put our registration link in the chat box.

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01:00:08.010 --> 01:00:27.629

Kevin Harbour: We'd really like to see you there. Folks, this is your chance. If you're thinking about funding, if you're thinking about scaling up and capacity building, this is the time and place to visit and get some of that work and build those relationships to make that happen. Thank you for your time, and I hope to see you all there.

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01:00:28.210 --> 01:00:44.199

Alan Cheam: Thank you so much, Kevin. We appreciate you. We want to be respectful for everyone's time, so I'm just going to quickly let everyone know that all of these opportunities will be sent in the recap, so don't feel like you're missing out on Unite LA's LA Regional Clean Tech Career Academy.

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01:00:44.200 --> 01:00:58.160

Alan Cheam: As well as, Center of Vital Industries Main Street goes Green Accelerator, all that information will be made available to you after this meeting. So I'll go ahead and pass it to Chioma to close it out, and we, hope everyone has a good weekend.

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01:00:59.430 --> 01:01:11.470

Chioma Agbahiwe: Yes, okay, so we had a very full agenda. We got through all of the items. We thank you all for being here on Friday the 13th. We hope you, enjoy Valentine's.

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01:01:11.470 --> 01:01:20.990

Chioma Agbahiwe: And it is a 3-day weekend for some of us, so busy weekend, and there's events, isn't it? All-Star Weekend as well?

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01:01:20.990 --> 01:01:36.130

Chioma Agbahiwe: So it's a good time here in LA County. Any questions you have, please send them to surf at laedc.org. It's in the chat. Please take a look at the chat. Please make sure that you receive our communications, because

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01:01:36.130 --> 01:01:38.909

Chioma Agbahiwe: That is where we send so much of this information.

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01:01:39.240 --> 01:01:53.210

Chioma Agbahiwe: And please make sure, if you are not, that you take a look at the website, LACERF.org, scroll to the bottom to either join to become a partner, or to receive email communications.

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01:01:53.570 --> 01:02:00.819

Chioma Agbahiwe: Our next meeting is scheduled for April 10th, same time, same Zoom link.

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01:02:00.880 --> 01:02:13.860

Chioma Agbahiwe: So please save the information. If you would like to receive the calendar invite, please send us an email, and we'll send you the invite. But any questions, please send us an email. We thank you very much. Two minutes over time, not bad.

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01:02:13.930 --> 01:02:30.969

Chioma Agbahiwe: And take a look at the next, communications for the recap, all the links to the reports, very important information. So thank you all, thank you to our partners, thank you to Steph, Nicole, CCF, and all of our partners on the call. Thank you to Stafford and Beacon Economics for presenting today.

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01:02:31.100 --> 01:02:32.780

Chioma Agbahiwe: Have a great weekend!