



OFFICE OF
MAYOR KEVIN JOHNSON

CITY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA

915 I STREET, 5TH FLOOR
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, August 8, 2011

Contact: Joaquin McPeck
Phone: 916-808-5440

Mayor Johnson Hosts Economic Summit

Over 50 business, labor, civic, and government leaders convene to discuss regional economic strategy

SACRAMENTO – Today, Mayor Kevin Johnson hosted a special Economic Summit that convened over 50 of the top local business, civic, labor, and government leaders for a candid, roundtable discussion about how Sacramento can attract and retain business and develop a strong, comprehensive economic strategy.

“It’s time for Sacramento to lead by example,” explained the Mayor. “We are the capital city of the eighth largest economy of the world, and yet we are not even the most economically competitive city in our own region. That’s unacceptable. Sacramento can and will take the steps necessary to create more jobs for our residents and better conditions for our businesses.”

“Everyone’s top priority right now is the economy,” explained Jack Crawford, General Partner of Velocity Venture Capital. “We can’t control the global economy, but it’s clear from today’s conversation that there are concrete strategies we can pursue that will make Sacramento a more attractive and competitive place to do business. It’s also important we start looking at technology entrepreneurship and embracing the clusters of excellence that exist in Sacramento. The Mayor took an important step towards that goal by starting this conversation.”

Among summit attendees were Council Member Jay Schenirer and Dr. Sanjay Varshney, Dean of the College of Business Administration at California State University, Sacramento. Dr. Varshney provided an overview of emerging trends in the Sacramento economy.

Today’s summit is part of a continuing effort by Mayor Johnson to improve the city’s business climate and economic development strategies.

In July, Mayor Johnson announced *Streamline Sacramento*, an initiative to improve Sacramento’s Community Development Department processes by embracing electronic technology and incorporating process streamlining measures to enhance the City’s level of customer service.

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