



PRESS RELEASE

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Downtown Partnership Endorses Mayor's Proposed Ballot Measure

Board of Directors supports Mayor's vision to finance contiguous expansion of the convention center, increasing funding for homeless services and road repair

SAN DIEGO - The Downtown San Diego Partnership is proud to announce its support for Mayor Faulconer's proposed November ballot initiative. This measure will protect San Diego's tourism economy and the jobs it creates, as well as establish a funding source for critical needs such as road repair and homeless services. The contiguous expansion of the San Diego Convention Center is desperately needed to modernize the existing facility and retain existing conventions. The ballot measure is supported by tourism and lodging leaders.

"Mayor Faulconer's proposal is common sense and good for the local economy. Expanding the convention center will protect San Diego's tourism economy for years to come, and investing in homeless services and street repair is just as important. San Diego will not be able to maintain its status as a world-class destination if we can't find a way to care for our most vulnerable and maintain our infrastructure," said Kris Michell, President and CEO of the Downtown Partnership.

"A contiguous expansion of the convention center is long overdue. Last year, the convention center generated more than one billion dollars in regional economic impact. It is simply bad for San Diego and taxpayers to not invest in this project," said Craig Benedetto, Chairman of the Downtown Partnership Board of Directors.

"Securing a funding source to address homelessness is critical. Recent data released by the Regional Task Force on the Homeless shows that homelessness is up 27% in Downtown. The time to act is now, and this measure is a positive step in providing adequate resources to address this issue," said Sumeet Parekh, a downtown property owner and Chairman of the Downtown Partnership Clean & Safe Board of Directors.

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