



Meeting of the
Council of Business Sponsors
February 21, 2020
12:00 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.
Central Valley Community Foundation
5260 N. Palm Avenue, Suite 122 - Fresno, CA

~ **Agenda** ~

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| I. | Gathering, Welcome, and Introductions
Ashley Swearingin – Central Valley Community Foundation
D.R.I.V.E. Video: “Forty Folks from Fresno” | 12:00 p.m. - 12:10 p.m. |
| II. | CA Office of Business & Economic Development - Central Valley Focus
Lenny Mendonca – Chief Economic and Business Advisor for Governor Newsom | 12:10 p.m. –12:20 p.m. |
| III. | Fresno Future of Food (F3) Innovation Corridor
Dr. Joseph Castro – CSU Fresno
Dean Ram Nunna - CSU Fresno
Josh Viers – UC Merced
Marek Gootman – The Brookings Institution
<i>On January 10th, Governor Gavin Newsom proposed \$65 million in funding for Fresno D.R.I.V.E related projects of which, \$33 million was proposed as a down payment of the F3 partnership between CSU Fresno and UC Merced. This new public/private partnership would build a world-class “precision food systems” industry cluster that supports advanced, sustainable agricultural production and food manufacturing, focused on cross-disciplinary engineering capabilities in digitalization and data science, mechatronics, equipment and systems integration.</i> | 12:20 p.m. –1:00 p.m. |
| IV. | PRO Neighborhoods / Betting Big on Small Businesses Owned by Women and People of Color
Tate Hill – Interm CEO of Access Plus Capital
<i>The Partnerships for Raising Opportunities in (PRO) neighborhoods is a national initiative funded by JP Morgan Chase’s corporate foundation. CVCF is a lead agency for a collaborative involving eleven community based organizations and three community development financial institutions (CDFI).</i>

Tara Lynn Gray – CEO of Fresno Metro Black Chamber of Commerce
<i>Betting Big is a “best in class” small business support initiative including a \$102 million fund impacting 2,500 small businesses owned by women and people of color, creating 6,000 jobs.</i> | 1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. |
| V. | Summary of Discussion, Next Steps
Ashley Swearingin | 1:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. |
| | VI. Adjournment
Next Meeting: May 1, 2020 | 1:45 p.m. |