Meeting of the
Council of Business Sponsors
September 24, 2021
11:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.
Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87480480424

~ Agenda ~

I. Gathering, Welcome, and Introductions
   Ashley Swearengin
   11:00 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.

II. DRIVE Focus: Fresno – Merced Future of Food Innovation (F3)
    Ashley Swearengin
    We are pleased to announce that the Fresno – Merced Future of Food (F3) Innovation initiative has passed the California legislature and sits on the Governor’s desk to be signed. Once signed, $30 million will be awarded to this public/private partnership between CSU Fresno, UC Merced, UC ANR and other stakeholders to establish the Innovation Center for Research and Entrepreneurship (iCREATE) in ag-food technology and engineering in downtown Fresno. The Fresno-Merced Future of Food Innovation initiative seeks to develop world recognized “Climate-Smart Food and Agriculture Systems” that provide solutions to economic and environmental challenges within the Central Valley. These solutions will result in both technology that can be exported to solve global food production challenges and increased support for local and regional food systems.
   11:10 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.

III. Fresno’s Impact Economy formerly 2nd Office Fresno
    Will Oliver – V.P. of Business Development at Fresno County EDC
    Katie Panella – Program Manager at Harvard Business School
    Raymond Jin / Chris Zeitz – Fresno County EDC
    Mike Grella – Grella Partnership Strategies
    The Fresno DRIVE initiative 2nd Office now called Fresno’s Impact Economy work leads have been working tirelessly throughout the pandemic developing strong partnerships and building out the much anticipated Inclusive Community Scorecard. This interactive conversation will also have fifteen minutes of Q & A immediately following.
    11:20 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

IV. Banking for Impact Overview
    Katie Panella – Program Manager at Harvard Business School
    Banking for Impact aims to create a common impact measurement and valuation approach tailored to banks. Together they are working on a robust, scalable and cost-effective method of quantification, valuation, attribution and aggregation of impact for the banking sector.
    12:15 p.m. - 12:25 p.m.

V. Summary of Discussion, Next Steps
    Ashley Swearengin
    12:25 p.m. - 12:45 p.m.

VI. Adjournment
    Next Meeting: November 9th at the California Economic Summit
    12:45 p.m.