

EVC
ECONOMIC VITALITY CORP.

PRESS RELEASE

Economic Vitality Corporation
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Economic Vitality Corporation announces resignation of President & CEO Michael Manchak

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIF. - (November 23, 2020) — President and CEO of the Economic Vitality Corporation (EVC) Michael Manchak announced his departure from the regional non-profit organization. Manchak has served the EVC since 2005, leading the organization to create economic balance and job opportunities throughout San Luis Obispo County. His years of service include overseeing the development of several business resources: a regional Economic Strategy with industry clusters, an Economic Dashboard for economic indicators, the Central Coast Capital Network to grow companies, the Employer-Talent Connection website for a stronger workforce, and a tri-county Broadband Consortium for faster internet connectivity. Under his leadership, the EVC advocated for infrastructure improvements within workforce housing, airport expansion, and conducted economic studies to help local industries such as airport, wine, tourism, and broadband.

"Mike's accomplishments have been many over the last fifteen years," EVC Board Chair Jolie Ditmore said, "including a countywide economic strategy that led to six clusters of industry for business collaboration recognized by Congress and the State Assembly. The Board of Directors and the community are grateful for the positive impact that Mike has made through the organization's teamwork." Board member Tim Williams said, "Over the years, we have celebrated a better economy and an increase in grants and sponsors with successful projects helped by Mike's ability to convey the need for a greater balance of jobs. His efforts created greater opportunities for our community through the team and its partners."

Congressman Salud Carbajal said, "Mike has been a passionate voice for the business community for many years. He understands that the key to economic vitality is collaboration and our economy is stronger when we work together. Under Mike's stewardship, the EVC has been a valuable and effective partner in planning for our future of the Central Coast. Assemblyman Jordan Cunningham said, "I want to congratulate Mike as San Luis Obispo County has greatly benefited from his leadership, and I thank him for his service to improving our community and creating jobs. Everybody who has benefitted from a growing regional economy owes Mike and his team at EVC a debt of gratitude."

Manchak, who looks back on his role as EVC President as one of his great honors, and valued the opportunity to spearhead impactful projects with public and private partners and in neighboring counties through California Forward and California Stewardship Network. "It has been especially rewarding to work hand-in-hand with entrepreneurs who take risks to create opportunities for others," said Manchak. "I am grateful for working with the EVC Board and sponsors, Chambers of Commerce, County Office of Education's SLO Partners, Board of Supervisors, Cuesta College, and thousands of people helped over the years," added Manchak. "I am also grateful to our dedicated team and am confident that the EVC will make great strides to meet evolving community needs, including a strong recovery from the pandemic through resources we have put in place."

In addition to his role as EVC President and CEO, Manchak has served on the board of directors of non-profit organizations including Central Coast Economic Forecast, California Stewardship Network, UCSB Economic Forecast Project, Central Coast Venture Forum, Twin Cities Community Hospital, County Office of Education SLO Partners, Workforce Development Board, Cal Poly and Cuesta College advisory boards, California Association for Local Economic Development (CALED), California Space Authority, and Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA).

ABOUT US In its 26th year, the Economic Vitality Corporation (EVC) is a non-profit economic development organization that serves all of San Luis Obispo County to create jobs, foster investment, and promote business.
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