



News for the week of Dec. 7, 2015



CITY RELEASES REQUEST FOR INFORMATION FOR 1,000-BED CONVENTION CENTER HOTEL

The City of Los Angeles, along with EWDD and the Department of Convention & Tourism Development, on Dec. 4 put out the call for hoteliers to express interest in building and

operating a 1,000-bed hotel at a revamped Los Angeles Convention Center. Public release of the Request for Information marks a key step in plans to renovate the aging Convention Center in order to attract bigger trade conferences, increase tourism and stimulate the Los Angeles economy. The document seeks information from parties with the expertise, resources and successful track record to develop a new, privately owned and operated convention headquarters hotel adjacent to the Convention Center. A project open house will be held on Jan. 26 at the Convention Center. Interested developers will also have an opportunity to ask questions and receive responses before the RFI submittal period closes on Feb. 26.

RFP's readied on Reseda, Westlake Theaters: EWDD economic staff is putting final touches on plans to release a Request for Proposal to develop the former Reseda Theatre. The RFP offers developers the opportunity to redevelop a 20,000-square-foot parcel of land into a dynamic commercial entertainment development that will bring jobs to the Reseda community. EWDD also plans to release the Westlake Theatre RFP, which provides developers with an opportunity to restore the historic Westlake Theatre and develop four nearby parcels into a parking structure to service the theater and /or a mixed-use development with housing.

JobsLA.org: There were 522 average daily users of the JobsLA.org website this week and nearly 25% were new visitors. Job seekers stayed online an average of 21 minutes.

Workforce stats: CalJobs registrations--563. WIOA enrollments (Adult)—381. Total WSC enrollments (WIOA + Wagner Peyser)--1,533.

Career choice training: EWDD staff, YouthSource center students and contracting partners participated in innovative workshops held Dec. 7, 8 and 9 focused on helping young people decide what is the best career path for them. Called “Innersight,” the three-hour session requires participants to answer a series of questions aimed at helping uncover interests and preferences that influence life choices. Trainers help youth understand that their natural interests and workstyles are important factors to consider in selecting a career.

Other economy-building efforts:

BusinessSource Center provides help: South LA BusinessSource Center helped LOXI, a hair extension company, identify online financial resources to access \$50,000 in working capital. The company has been in business for two years. Staff also assisted Glen McGowan, a former NBA player, with a software application he is developing aimed at educating youth ages 15 to 21. Business center staff also helped Mr. Martinez write a business plan and obtain a business license.

“Updates” is produced by Catherine Saillant in EWDD’s communications department. If you have questions, comments or wish to contribute to an upcoming “Updates,” please contact Saillant at 213-744-9048 or at Catherine.Saillant@lacity.org.

