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City of Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department
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News for the Week of July 27, 2015

LAID OFF HEINZ WORKERS GET HELP FINDING NEW JOBS

EWDD's Rapid Response team helped coordinate a job fair for 145 employees affected by the upcoming closure of the Heinz plant in Chatsworth. About 100 workers participated in the July 24 event that drew prospective employers such as Langers, Anheuser-Busch, Poly Tainer, and other industrial companies. Several WorkSource centers such as the West Valley WorkSource Center,



Canoga Park/South Valley WorkSource Center and the Watts/LA WorkSource Center provided guidance and information to the affected workers. Rapid Response staff thanked the employers for their participation and asked to be notified if any of the laid-off workers are hired.

Another Jobs Portal set to open: Workforce staff have identified space for a new Jobs Portal in South Los Angeles. The building, at 5849 Crocker Street, is ADA compliant, has parking for staff and clients, and is accessible by public transportation. The portal will be operated by UAW-LETC and is expected to be up and running next week.

Film Task Force hashes out issues: LA's citywide Film Task Force met July 23 at Sony Studios. The 57 attendees, including industry producers and location managers, met with city department managers, and discussed a number of issues, including bike lane safety, a need for more base camp parking in downtown Los Angeles, and timing restrictions to apply for expanded tax incentives. EWDD staff provided information to task force members about an upcoming tour of vacant city properties available for filming.



‘Girls Who Code’ got it wired: Twenty young women completed an immersive, 7-week program teaching the basics of computer language in classes hosted by Boyle Heights Technology YouthSource Center. “Girls Who Code” incorporates leadership skills and one-on-one mentoring with highly successful women. Students learned HTML, CSS, Java Script and Python, and how to create websites and mobile apps. Field trips to colleges and corporations are also part of the summer program. Mayor Eric Garcetti on July 28 congratulated the class and

spoke about the importance of gender equity in the sciences and in technology workplaces. AT&T sponsored the 2015 “GHC” class.

WDB annual meeting: The Workforce Development Board held its annual meeting July 28, swearing in new members and organizing officers for the coming year. WDB chair Charles Woo conducted a presentation thanking corporate donors who contributed to this year’s Hire LA’s Youth summer jobs campaign.

UCLA tour: Young men and women from Para Los Niño’s in East L.A. toured the UCLA campus on July 20-21 and enjoyed an overnight stay in the university’s dorms. The students were thrilled with the tour (*see photo, right*) and gained motivation to achieve academically and attend college.



Other economy-building events:

- **EWDD staff provided information** on job training and business development services available to the community at **the Central Avenue Jazz Fest held July 25-26** in South Los Angeles.
- **The North Valley BusinessSource Center**, operated by VEDC, held its Financial Projections for Business Plan class on July 21. The workshop covered topics including how to build a better business plan and how to effectively implement financial projections.
- **The South Valley BusinessSource Center**, operated by ICON, held its Marketing Workshop on July 22. The workshop covered topics such as what is marketing and targeting customers.
- **The Hollywood BusinessSource Center**, operated by MCS, held its Accessing Capital to Grow My Business workshop on July 21.

EWDD/City Council:

- **CD3** - EWDD staff met with the Council office, representatives of the LA Kings and a Magnolia Science Academy charter school in Reseda to discuss the opportunity to create a master planned development that would include an ice rink, athletic facilities, retail, housing, parking and a Grades 6-12 school on properties currently owned by CRA/LA (under option to the City), CIM (private developer), and the Magnolia Science Academy.
- **CD9** - EWDD staff attended a meeting with CD9 and potential development team to discuss plans for redevelopment of a City-owned building located at the South Los Angeles Wetlands Park.
- **CD9** – EWDD staff provided a draft motion to authorize a name change for the legal entity carrying out construction of a restaurant on the Dunbar Village project. Staff confirmed with the developer that the project will be completed approximately 9 months after the Council Motion is approved.
- **CD10** - EWDD staff met with representatives of CD10 and the Charles Company to discuss the current status of District Square, a long-standing Section 108 project located on a catalytic corner of the Crenshaw Corridor, to resolve performance and payment issues.
- **CD15** - EWDD staff completed a Consolidated Plan application to provide \$250,000 in CDBG funding for Loco'l, a proposed sit-down restaurant, intending to open up its first location in Watts.
- **CD13** - EWDD staff met with CD13 staff for an in-the-field tour of their District's CRA/LA redevelopment project areas to brainstorm on how to best utilize remaining Excess Bond Proceeds to meet community needs.
- **CD13** - EWDD staff are coordinating with LA River Corp for a possible Consolidated Plan application for \$350,000 to provide predevelopment and capital funds for a River Cafe and Kayak Rental that will provide up to 10 FTE jobs as well as local amenities along the LA River.