



At a glance (February 2009)

- **Cities submit economic development projects for economic stimulus funding.**
- **WestPack Trade Show in Anaheim February 9th through 12th recorded 159 inquires and several new projects leads.**
- **Sacramento One Voice meetings February 10th through 12th focuses attention of infrastructure and prevailing wages**
- **Broker mission to Sacramento precedes One Voice and generates location inquiry**
- **Innovation Place Network meeting reviews draft business plan and location criteria**
- **Forty contacts with area business related to enterprise zone and local projects; Two new project leads**

Upcoming: Agricultural Export Training Certificate (CalAgX) program for food processors and agricultural producers. Contact - California Centers for International Trade Development (209)384-5892 or (800)-355-5892 Email: mercedcmtac@elite.net

- MCEDCO commenced collating economic development projects from the cities and county of Merced for submission to the State of California Business Transportation and Housing Agency to compete for funds from federal Economic Stimulus funds allocated via the State's Regional Economic Recovery Workplan. Pursuant to the State's suggestion, the Secretariat of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley is collecting projects from all sectors to be submitted on behalf of the central valley region.
- Records indicate 159 inquiries received over three days at the West Pack Trade Show in Anaheim, California February 10th through 12th. The event was coordinated and funded by the CCEDC as part of the regional outreach program implemented over the past year. CCEDC identified several active projects considering central valley sites and have commenced arranging site tours.
- MCEDCO staff participated with the One Voice mission to Sacramento February 10th through 12th meeting with legislators and State officials. The economic development focus requested a San Joaquin Valley "prevailing wage" rate as well as support for infrastructure to assist in developing sites and facilities enabling the cities and county of Merced to compete for new investment projects.
- CCEDC completed a broker mission to Sacramento in early February. The mission contacted site selection consultants and real estate brokers in Sacramento to promote the region and development opportunities.
- MCEDCO staff met with Merced College to review the draft business plan for the Innovation Place Network February 6th. The goal is to complete an acceptable plan by June 1, 2009 and position the communities to compete for EDA funding for construction or renovation of structures for two new incubators.
- Staff continue to contact local businesses, nineteen in February to encourage firms to utilize the enterprise zone to save money. The volume of business outreach was lower in February due to trade shows, missions and other staff absences.