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Contact: Kim Serafin  
323-654-1327

United Chambers of Commerce of the San Fernando Valley
Endorses Valley Independence

Chambers of Commerce from Across the Valley Voice Their Support for Cityhood

After careful consideration, the United Chambers of Commerce of the San Fernando Valley (UCC) today voted by a wide margin to support Valley independence by endorsing cityhood for the San Fernando Valley. UCC Chair Bill Powers cited this result as Valley business’ outcry for more local control, a more business-friendly atmosphere and improved services such as police and fire.

The UCC is an association comprised of 25 Chambers of Commerce and business professional groups from across the San Fernando Valley, representing 8,000 businesses and over 300,000 employees. UCC is the legislative advocate for Valley business.

“The support for this important issue among such a large cross section of Valley business groups signals that the tide is building towards independence and away from the downtown power brokers and their economic grip on the Valley,” said Powers. “I want to congratulate the chambers for taking a strong leadership role in making their endorsements.

“With the support of so many business groups and individuals, it is increasingly clear that the business community is acknowledging the need to create a new Valley city. Not only will Valley independence give residents more local control and make government more responsive, a new Valley city will also ensure that the San Fernando Valley gets the essential services it needs and continues to retain and attract new businesses.

“For the eighth consecutive year Los Angeles has been ranked the most expensive city in Southern California in which to do business. Nearly every fortune 500 company has left LA and we are in danger of losing other major industries to the surrounding, more business-friendly cities. Valley businesses are tired of the tax-and-spend policies of downtown and they are joining forces to make a change that will help businesses both in Los Angeles and in a new Valley city.

“A Valley city will save $1.3 billion over the next 20 years as an independent city,” concluded Powers. “UCC is proud to be a leader in the movement towards Valley independence and to a more accountable, accessible local government.”

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