



402 West Broadway, Suite 1000
San Diego, CA 92101-3585
p: 619.544.1300

www.sdchamber.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Alison Phillips
San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce
P: 619-544-1381 C: 805-886-8594
aphillips@sdchamber.org

CHAMBER'S BINATIONAL DELEGATION PROMOTES REGIONAL PRIORITIES IN MEXICO CITY

U.S.-MX relationship, USMCA, border infrastructure, and environmental projects are top priorities

SAN DIEGO (March 28, 2019) – Nearly 100 business and community leaders from San Diego and Baja California will travel to Mexico City to champion U.S.-Mexico relations and advance issues critical to the success of the binational business community. The San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce's 14th annual Binational Delegation to Mexico City runs March 31 through April 3.

This is the delegation's first visit to Mexico's capital city under the new López Obrador Presidential administration. The group will meet with Mexican leaders and government officials to strengthen economic and diplomatic ties and discuss opportunities for collaboration.

"In the last few years we have built a strong foundation with Mexico's leadership, and there is now an understanding of our region's opportunities, obstacles, and economic potential," said Jerry Sanders, Chamber President and CEO. "We look forward to building on that foundation and forging relationships with the new presidential administration - and showing how Cali-Baja continually puts collaboration above rhetoric and works together."

The 95-member delegation is the Chamber's largest ever to Mexico City and represents a diverse mix of San Diego- and Baja-based industries, organizations, and elected officials including six mayors, two consul generals, and nine councilmembers. Attending for the first time are elected leaders from Escondido, National City, and Encinitas which demonstrates greater regional support for binational relations. San Diego County and Baja California mayors taking part in the trip: San Diego Mayor Kevin Faulconer, Tijuana Interim Mayor Eduardo Torreros, Imperial Beach Mayor Serge Dedina, Chula Vista Mayor Mary Salas, National City Mayor Alejandra Sotelo Solís, and Encinitas Mayor Catherine Blakespear.

Delegates will meet with a variety of Mexican federal agencies and representatives with the goal of:

- Conveying our region's support USMCA which still requires congressional ratification
- Advancing border infrastructure projects including the Otay Mesa East Port of Entry, Calexico/Mexicali Ports of Entry, and Tecate rail port and joint inspection facility
- Securing a multi-agency agreement to resolve the Tijuana River Valley pollution issue

To underscore the importance of trade and the ratification of USMCA, the group will meet with Undersecretary of International Trade Luz María de la Mora. Undersecretary de la Mora will offer delegates insight into Mexico's work on labor reforms which are included in USMCA. In addition, Secretary of Foreign Affairs Marcelo Ebrard, and Undersecretary for North America Jesús Seade, President López Obrador's chief USMCA negotiator, will offer delegates an insider's look into key components of the agreement.

For a full trip agenda [click here](#).

Additional notable delegates:

- Sue Saarnio, U.S. Consulate General, Tijuana
- Ambassador Marcela Celorio, Mexican Consul General
- San Diego City Council President Georgette Gomez and Councilmember Vivian Moreno
- Tijuana City Council members Ivette Casillas, Manuel Rodriguez, and Luis Torres-Santillan
- San Diego County Supervisor Greg Cox
- Caltrans District Director Cory Binns
- Secretary of Economic Development for Tijuana Bernabe Esquer
- Chula Vista City Council member and Deputy Mayor Steve Padilla
- Escondido City Council member Olga Diaz
- Imperial Beach City Council members Paloma Aguirre and Mark West
- And representatives from various businesses and organizations, including: Chosen Foods, Sportfishing Association of California, Cross Border Xpress, MTS, Port of San Diego, Baja California Railroad, Woodward Logistics, San Diego County Regional Airport Authority

The San Diego Regional Chamber is the only Chamber to lead annual binational delegation trips to the U.S. and Mexico capital cities.

About the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce

The San Diego Regional Chamber is the hub for connections and collaboration among the regional business community, and uses that clout to advocate for public policies and candidates that support economic growth and the creation of jobs for all businesses. As the largest local Chamber on the West Coast, representing approximately 2,500 businesses and an estimated 300,000 jobs, the San Diego Regional Chamber is fighting to make San Diego the most business-friendly region in California. For more information, please visit SDChamber.org or call 619-544-1300.

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