

August 2024



Our monthly news & updates

[Visit our Website!](#)



A Message from: **Michael Formosa**
SSF Chamber of Commerce, Treasurer and Board of Directors

Dear Members of the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce,

I am honored to have been elected to serve on the Board of Directors for the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, and even more honored to have been elected to the position of Treasurer. Most of you may not know me as I am a new guy around town, so I'd like to provide you with a little bit about my background.

I am currently employed as the Controller for the South San Francisco Scavenger Company, your local refuse and recycling hauler. My responsibilities include oversight of the financial position of the company along with management of our office team. Prior to joining the SSF Scavenger Company, in my early career I worked in accounting and reporting related roles for a few small community banks, and then I moved to public accounting where I worked as a financial statement auditor and obtained my California CPA license. I also received a Master of Accountancy from Golden Gate University in downtown San Francisco, and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of California, Davis.

Here at the South San Francisco Scavenger Company, we are a small family-owned business, and we serve the residents and businesses of South San Francisco, Millbrae, Brisbane and the San Francisco International Airport. In the ever-changing world of waste, we are always looking to stay at the forefront of sustainability. In recent years we have embraced technology, upgrading our sorting line with optical sorters and robotic sorters that utilize artificial intelligence to help us recover more and produce cleaner recyclables. Recent legislation in California, Senate Bill 1383, requires everyone to participate in a 3-container collection system. Organics/compostables and recyclables sorted into their respective green and blue bins and remaining materials placed into the gray trash bin. In light of this, we have ramped up our outreach programs and are continually working with our resident and business customers to help them sort properly and become compliant with this new state mandate. Further out on the

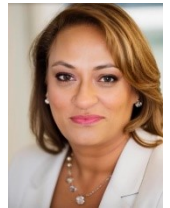
horizon, the State is mandating that our fleet be converted to zero-emission vehicles. We have begun researching our options for fleet vehicles and the infrastructure to support these vehicles. Progress on this initiative is slow since this level of technology doesn't viably exist just yet, however we are continually moving toward the goal. If you have any questions, please visit our website at www.ssfscavenger.com or reach out to our customer service team at (650) 589-4020.

Although I am passionate about sustainability, I guess you could say that I was always destined for this industry. Both my grandfather and father worked here at the SSF Scavenger Company for many years. The apple didn't fall too far from the tree I suppose. Although I was born in the City of Orange, in southern California, I moved to South San Francisco when I was 2 years old and essentially never left. I met my wife, Mikaela, in 2015 who is a native of Daily City, and we have been living in SSF with our wonderful 3-year-old Bernedoodle. We were married in May of 2023, and now just a year later we have our baby boy on the way, who we are excited to meet mid-September.

Thank you for the opportunity to get more involved with our community! I look forward to meeting the members of the Chamber and working together! Hope to see you all at a Mixer or Chamber event soon!

[South San Francisco Scavenger Company Garbage Disposal Recycling and Transfer Station – South San Francisco Scavenger Company Garbage Disposal Recycling and Transfer Station \(ssfscavenger.com\)](http://www.ssfscavenger.com)

A Message from the Desk of Mary Prem, CEO of the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce



Dear Chamber Members,

I hope this message finds you well. Our new board of directors has hit the ground running, and we have some exciting events and initiatives to share with you.

Upcoming Events - Save the Date!

- **Mixer - Security Public Storage**

Please join us at Security Public Storage in Daly City for our September Mixer, celebrating **Hispanic Heritage Month**, on Thursday, September 19th, from 4:30 to 7:00 PM.

- **Genentech Goes to Town (GGTT)**

Our Genentech Goes to Town campaign runs from **September 9 to 22**. This is a great opportunity for our member merchants to showcase their businesses. Ensure your membership is current and email us at info@ssfchamber.com by **August 20th** to participate. Posters will be delivered after August 23rd.

- **Installation and Awards Dinner**

Save the date for our Installation and Awards Dinner on **Friday, October 11th**. This event will honor outstanding achievements within our community. More details on ticket sales and selecting winners will be shared soon.

Update

Business License Tax Initiative

South San Francisco is updating its business license tax, which will be on the ballot this November. If passed, it would increase the share paid by large firms and bring in an estimated \$3.4 million. The current BLT comprises about 1.9% of the city's general fund revenue, and the proposed changes aim to align it more closely with comparable Bay Area cities.

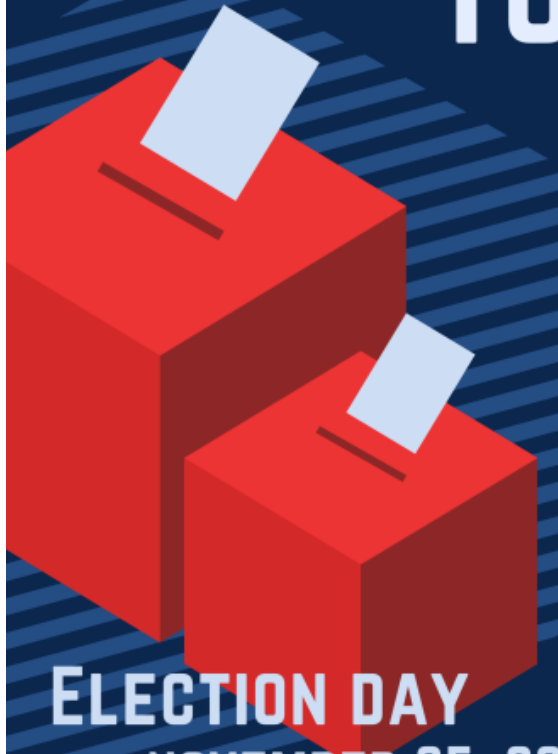
While we successfully advocated for lower fees, we couldn't convince the Council to add a cap. Your support and engagement are crucial as we continue to advocate for our business community.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to making our community a vibrant and prosperous place to live and work.

Warm regards,
Mary Prem

 CITY OF
SOUTH SAN
FRANCISCO

REGISTER TO VOTE



BECAUSE
YOUR VOTE
MATTERS



- Update Voter Record
- Check Voter Status
- Request a Vote-by-Mail
- Find Election information

Deadline:
Monday, October 21, 2024

ELECTION DAY
NOVEMBER 05, 2024



For more information: www.smcacre.org

County of San Mateo - Elections Division
40 Tower Road, San Mateo CA 94402
Phone: (650) 312-5222
email: registrar@smcacre.org

Important Update for Chamber Members:

Facts You Should Know: Proposed New Legislation

Business License Tax Initiative

South San Francisco is proposing updates to its business license tax (BLT) on the ballot this November. If passed, the changes would increase revenue from large firms and are expected to bring in an additional \$3.4

million. Currently, the city's BLT accounts for about 1.9% of its general fund revenue, compared to a 4%-5% median rate for similar Bay Area cities. In 2023, BLT revenue was approximately \$2.5 million.

The new BLT model would simplify business categories and use a per-employee format of \$55 per employee with no tax cap. Hotels and short-term rentals would retain a per-unit structure, while construction contractors would be taxed based on project valuation.

The council will finalize the measure in August, and it will be presented to voters in November.

The Chamber submitted the following letter to the City Council:



July 24, 2024

Sharon Ranals, City Manager
Members of the South San Francisco City Council
City of South San Francisco
400 Grand Avenue
South San Francisco, CA 94080

Dear City Manager Ranals and Esteemed City Council Members,

On behalf of the South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to express our position regarding the proposed updates to the Business License Tax. We understand the necessity of modernizing the current tax model to address the existing budget deficit and ensure our tax rates are competitive with neighboring cities.

Pros:

- **Modernization and Fairness:** Updating the tax model to ensure that our tax system reflects the modern business landscape, promoting fairness across all business types.
- **Financial Stability:** Addressing the city's budget deficit is crucial for maintaining essential public services and infrastructure, which benefits both businesses and residents.
- **Competitive Alignment:** Aligning our tax rates with those of neighboring cities helps keep South San Francisco competitive, encouraging business retention and attraction.

Cons:

- **Impact on Small Businesses:** Significant tax increases can disproportionately affect small businesses, potentially hindering their growth and sustainability. It is important to implement changes in a way that does not overly burden these vital contributors to our local economy.
- **Biotech Industry Concerns:** South San Francisco's economy heavily relies on the biotech industry. Substantial tax hikes could deter new businesses from establishing operations here, impacting local employment and economic growth.

Suggestions:

- **Gradual Implementation:** To mitigate the impact on businesses, especially small and medium-sized businesses, we recommend implementing tax increases gradually over a period of 2-5 years.
- **Attracting New Businesses:** Expanding the tax base by attracting new businesses can provide additional revenue without placing a heavy burden on existing businesses. This initiative should target a diverse range of industries.

- **Public-Private Partnerships:** Exploring partnerships that generate revenue and create opportunities for local businesses can help address the deficit while fostering economic growth.
- **Operational Efficiency:** Identifying areas within city operations where efficiency improvements can reduce costs is essential for sustainable financial management.

Additional Concerns:

There has not been an opportunity to fully understand the impact of this ballot measure on the business community. We cannot take a position on the majority of this proposed tax increase in its current form, and encourage waiting to put this measure on the ballot to allow the business community time to fully discuss and understand the impact on both small and large businesses in South San Francisco. The process has been rushed and there has been a lack of transparency as this tax increase has been developed; therefore, we strongly request the city hold business community town halls and listening sessions to ensure our business community fully understands how they will be impacted by the proposed increase in the business license tax.

In conclusion, while we recognize the need for the City to address its budget deficit by increasing the business license tax, we advocate for a balanced approach that supports both the City's financial health and the business community's growth and sustainability. We look forward to continuing our collaboration with the City to foster a thriving economic environment in South San Francisco.

Thank you for considering our input.

Sincerely,



Mary Prem
CEO, South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce

[IN PERSON]

SOLE PROPRIETOR OR LLC: WHAT LEGAL ENTITY IS BETTER FOR YOUR BUSINESS?

In this comprehensive, interactive workshop, you will gain a deep understanding of the various legal structures available to businesses and how each choice can influence the trajectory of your business.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20
6:00 - 8:00 PM

366 GRAND AVE,
SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO



REGISTRATION
recenter.org/events




GABRIELA SAPP, MBA
BUSINESS CONSULTANT | CO-FOUNDER & CEO,
EQUITABLE GROWTH SOLUTIONS

[EN PERSONA]

DUEÑO ÚNICO O LLC: CUÁL ENTIDAD LEGAL ES MEJOR PARA SU NEGOCIO?

En este taller completo e interactivo, adquirirás una comprensión profunda de las diversas estructuras legales disponibles para los negocios y cómo cada elección puede influir en la trayectoria de tu negocio.

MARTES, 27 DE AGOSTO
6:00 - 8:00 PM

366 GRAND AVE,
SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO



REGISTRACIÓN
recenter.org/events




GABRIELA SAPP, MBA
CONSULTANTE DE NEGOCIOS | COFUNDADORA
Y CEO, EQUITABLE GROWTH SOLUTIONS

[IN PERSON]

STARTING A HOME KITCHEN BUSINESS



3-WEEK CLASS

In three weeks, learn about food safety & sanitation best practices, understand the legal & regulatory requirements for operating a home-based food business, & pinpoint the types of food you will be creating for your business

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20
12:15 - 1:15 PM

JEFFERSON ADULT SCHOOL
123 EDMONT DR. DALY CITY, CA



REGISTRATION
recenter.org/events



TANYA REYES
CONSULTANTE DE NEGOCIOS | SPECIALTY
IN FOOD BUSINESSES & STREET VENDING

Genentech Goes to Town

Save the Date!
September 9 - 22, 2024

Folks, get ready for Genentech Goes to Town! It's like Christmas in September for our chamber member merchants. Ensure your chamber membership is in good standing to take advantage of this lucrative event. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity!



Street Surface Seal Project Update

The City of South San Francisco is currently undertaking the 2023/2024 Street Surface Seal Project as part of the Pavement Management Program (PMP). This project aims to maintain and improve asphalt pavement in Downtown and Old Town neighborhoods.

The project is divided into three phases:

Phase 1: Completed repairs of localized asphalt failures.

Phase 2: Completed "Winter Suspension" period.

Phase 3: Ongoing removal of lane delineation, application of crack seal, surface seal treatment, and new lane markings. This phase will run from mid-June to July 26, 2024.

Construction work occurs from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Street parking and sidewalks may be temporarily impacted, with "No Parking" signs and detour signage in place.

For the full schedule and an interactive map, please visit:
[Public Notifications | City of South San Francisco \(ssf.net\)](#)

EMPLOYERS

**YOU'RE
INVITED**



24TH ANNUAL IN PERSON CAREER FAIRS

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO

DIVERSITY EMPLOYMENT DAY

CAREER FAIR

& Roundtables

**FREE and
Open to
Public**

**CIVIC & COMMUNITY
SPONSORS**



Our ongoing mission is to provide qualified candidates from the City, County and State's richly diverse communities. With the understanding that diversity is a good business strategy, the opportunities for employer and candidates are endless.

This diversity event is the most significant career fair presented today. Its outreach includes Veterans, Multicultural, Women, LGBTQIA+, Mature Workers and People with Disabilities. Each employer is actively committed to getting America back to work, diversity and equality in the workplace.

It is our wish that this day brings you closer to meeting your goals and objectives.

**EMPLOYERS
GET
DETAILS
HERE**



IN PERSON CAREER FAIR

Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2024

11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

THE LIBRARY/PARKS AND RECREATION CENTER

901 CIVIC CAMPUS WAY

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94080

**TOP
Employers
Recruiting**

CURRENT AND PAST EMPLOYERS INCLUDE: SUTTER HEALTH, PG&E-PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC, TURNER CONSTRUCTION, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN FRANCISCO, SAN FRANCISCO HEALTH PLAN, CALIFORNIA DEPT. OF PUBLIC HEALTH, SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY, THE PASHA GROUP/PASHA HAWAII, RENEWAL BY ANDERSEN, ALAMEDA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, CALIFORNIA CORRECTIONAL HEALTH CARE SERVICE, DRESS FOR SUCCESS SAN FRANCISCO, THE EDUCATION TEAM, EDD - EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT NORTHERN DIVISION DEPARTMENT, GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY, EXPLORUS/MUIR WOODS TRADING CO, CUMULUS MEDIA, ABODE, CALIFORNIA DEPT. CORRECTIONS REHABILITATION - CDCR, KTSF 26/LINCOLN BROADCASTING, CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF CAREER DEVELOPMENT, JEWISH FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES, EVENT MANAGEMENT CP AND MANY MORE.

CANDIDATE WORKSHOPS

RESUME REVIEWS

EMPLOYER WORKSHOPS

DIVERSITY ROUNDTABLE

GUEST SPEAKERS

GIVE-AWAYS!

DIVERSITY UNITES US!

Helping employers to build workforces that reflect all communities served.
We commend our local diversity partners and congratulate the over 10,000 hired candidates.



**City Career Fair
productions**



Media & Community Partners

- KTSF 26 TV, Job Train, South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center, Bonneville, Cumulus Media, EDD, Alpha Media, Salem Media and Diversity Recruiters Network

**Stay Informed!
MORE DETAILS!**

**info@citycareerfair.com
www.citycareerfair.com**

*Business Casual and
resumes required.
Ages 18+ only.*

*Please share with your
Network & Friends.*

AMERICA'S VERY BEST & LARGEST CAREER FAIR!



Kiwaniis
SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO

Day of BOCCE

\$50 PER PERSON
INCLUDES 3 BOCCE GAMES, CONTINENTAL
BREAKFAST & LUNCH
- TEAMS & INDIVIDUALS WELCOME -

COURT SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE
GOLD \$250 - SILVER \$200 - BRONZE \$150
YOUR NAME OR COMPANY NAME
PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 2024
8:30 AM CHECK-IN

ORANGE MEMORIAL PARK
BOCCE COURTS, SSF

REGISTER NOW

MAIL CHECK TO
SSF KIWANIS, P.O. BOX 292,
SSF, CA 94083

- OR -

PAY BY CC VIA PHONE
AFTER RSVP

REG. DEADLINE: 8/19

INFO@SSFKIWANIS.ORG

FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT LOCAL
YOUTH & FAMILY CHARITIES
WWW.SSFKIWANIS.ORG

RIBBON CUTTING



Ribbon Cutting Grand Opening of **Curry Pizza House** 415 Grand Avenue, South San Francisco

On Saturday, July 13th, Curry Pizza House opened its doors on Grand Ave with a festive ribbon-cutting ceremony led by the Honorable Mayor James Coleman. The excitement was high, with a line of eager patrons wrapping down the block.

The reviews are fantastic! One fan raved, "The BBQ wings, hot wings, and our half-and-half pizza with curry veggie delight and combination options were fantastic. The veggie option had a great spicy kick, and the combination was loaded with ingredients. We've found our favorites—goodbye boring pizza!"

Another customer loved the unique flavors, "We tried half aloo gobi and half chili paneer. The aloo gobi was a unique flavor, just like home-cooked aloo gobi with roti." With big screens for game watching, it's the perfect spot for a fun night out.

Curry Pizza House has quickly become a favorite, offering a delicious twist on traditional pizza that you won't want to miss. Come by and enjoy the flavorful experience!





August is National Immunization Awareness Month

Vaccines are a breakthrough of modern medicine. Because of the efforts to vaccinate, smallpox was eradicated from the U.S. in 1949. Other serious diseases like polio are also nearing elimination. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has even estimated that vaccinations will prevent more than **21 million** hospitalizations and **732,000** deaths among children born in the last 20 years.

But vaccination has become a hot-button topic. Unfortunately, misinformation that associates vaccines with conditions like autism, disabilities, or other medical issues is one of the main reasons people are choosing not to vaccinate. There is no scientific evidence that supports these claims and much of the information that's shared online is inaccurate.

While the vaccination topic may seem complicated and controversial, it's important to understand how vaccines work. Unfortunately, there are many myths about vaccines, including what the term means. People often refer to shots, vaccinations, and [immunizations](#) as if they're the same. But a shot is not necessarily a vaccine.

A shot is one method that your doctor or care team could use to inject a helpful substance into your body. Depending on your needs, the shot could contain a medication like insulin or antibiotics. Vaccines are used to help prevent serious diseases or illnesses from happening or spreading. The vaccine itself is a safe substance that contains a small amount of a weakened or dead virus or bacteria. Some of the most common vaccines include: *Chickenpox, Flu (influenza), Hepatitis (A & B), Human Papillomavirus (HPV), Measles, mumps, rubella, Polio, Shingles, Tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (whooping cough).*

Immunization is the process of becoming protected — or immune — to a disease or illness. When your body is exposed to a vaccine, your immune system will produce antibodies against that disease. Your body will then be able to recognize and fight the disease if you're ever exposed to it.

Talk to your doctor if you have any questions about vaccinations. You should also let your doctor know if you have any international travel coming up. They may recommend certain vaccines depending on your destination.

Edward Kao, MD
Physician-in-Chief
Kaiser Permanente South San Francisco Medical Center



A Fun, Free Family Event!

The Festa Italiana - SSF 2024
Sunday, September 29, 2024
South San Francisco's Orange Memorial Park

Join us for a day of celebration and Italian culture! The Festa Italiana - SSF will feature:

- Entertainment Performances
- Cultural Displays
- Vendors
- Car Show
- Kid's Zone
- Premiere Bocce Tournament

Special Exhibit: Museo Italo featuring Italians in Baseball

Visitors can sip Tuscan wines, enjoy a refreshing beer, and "mangia" Italian cuisine while strolling amongst exotic Italian cars and vehicles from yesteryear.

This is a free, fun family event with a special focus on the Kid's Zone, where youngsters can enjoy face painting, pasta making, story reading, a salami toss, and much more. They can also participate in the Youth Soccer Goal Challenge.

For more information and photos from last year's Festa, visit www.ssfiacc.org.

Friendly reminder to Chamber Members:

Have you changed your contact information, email address, or phone numbers?

Please provide the SSF Chamber of Commerce with your information to keep our website



up to date.

You can email any changes to info@ssfchamber.com



You can RSVP and pay for our events by going to the calendar section and clicking on the event you want to attend. Registration is for SSF Chamber members.

Not a Chamber member yet?

Contact the Chamber at info@ssfchamber.com or visit www.ssfchamber.com

Follow us on [Facebook](#) & Instagram for the latest Chamber news.

Calendar of Events

August

Embrace the warmth of August with an open heart and a spirit full of possibilities. This is the month to shine, celebrate, and create lasting memories. August invites us to savor the lingering days of summer, enjoy outdoor adventures, and bask in the beauty of the season.

8/2 Friday 4:30pm

Chamber Mixer - Italian American Citizens Club

8/14 6:30pm - Regular City Council Meeting

8/28 6:30pm - Regular City Council Meeting

9/9 - 9/22 Genentech Goes To Town

9/19 4:30pm Mixer at Security Public Storage

9/29 Festa Italiana, Orange Park

10/8 Career Fair, Library Parks & Rec

10/11 Business Awards & Installation Dinner

South San Francisco Chamber Member Benefit

Did you know as one of the many benefits of being our member that you can submit your events for Chamber approval through our monthly newsletter, or social media outlets? Once approved, it will be listed on our event calendar!



Cypress Lawn

1201 El Camino Real, Colma CA 94015

(650)550-8846

email: ioliva@cypresslawn.com web: <https://cypresslawn.com/>

Long Bridge Pizza Company

2347 3rd Street, San Francisco CA 94107

web: <https://www.longbridgepizza.com/>

Trez (Financial)

2261 Market St., Suite 5144, San Francisco CA 94114

email: hola@trez.co

web: <https://www.trez.co/>

Sticky Thumb Weed Delivery

South San Francisco CA 94080

email: Management@stickythumbdelivery.com

web: <https://stickythumbdelivery.com/>

Zion Health (A lead formulation Beauty Brand)

430 East Grand Ave, South San Francisco CA 94080

email: info@zionhealth.com

web: <https://zionhealth.com/>



Your support is truly appreciated!

Alida Manor Apartments (April 2018)
Autobody Outlet (February 2023)
Bitters & Bottles (August 2013)
Bronstein Music (April 1946)
Carcione's Fresh Produce Co. Inc. (May 2000)
City of South San Francisco (May 1988)
Commute.org (August 2002)
Downtown Liquor (July 2023)
Dumpling Empire (August 2011)
Fairfield Inn and Suite by Marriott SFO Airport (April 2022)
Historical Society of South San Francisco (July 2005)
J&J Market (July 2023)
Los Metates Taqueria (September 2006)
Lum Optometry (July 1998)
Redwood Roofing Co. (August 2020)
Ryan & Ryan Construction (April 2012)
San Mateo County Supervisor Dave Pine (August 2011)
SSF Police Association, Inc. (July 1980)
Singer Lewak, LLP (January 1971)
Ultragenyx (July 2020)

Legislative Watch List

We take care of politics so you can take care of your business

Chairman Circle Members

Chairman's Circle members receive benefits above and beyond typical membership, with the highest visibility at Chamber events and in publications

Chairman Circle - GOLD MEMBER



Chairman Circle - SILVER MEMBERS



Chairman Circle - BRONZE MEMBERS





2023-24 Board Officers

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Sailesh Mehra
SM8

Vice President
Daniela Jonguitud
Chajinel Home Care Services

Treasurer
Michael Formosa
SSF Scavenger Company

Ex-Officio City Manager
Sharon Ranals

Board of Directors

Dani Fandino
Events & Flowers by Dani

Kamal Hyder
SF Bay ADU

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AC Marriott

Keri Kirby
Sitike Counseling Center

Suzanne Lee
Genentech

Natalia Morales
Kilroy Realty Corporation

Shetal Patel
Hampton Inn SFO

Pravin Punjiya
Fairfield Inn by Marriott SFO

Kevin Williams
California Water Service

Kevin Worth
Kaiser Permanente

Chamber Personnel

Mary Prem
CEO

Arlene Dozier
Administrative Assistant

Controller
Ivone Chanu