

Economic Development eNewsletter

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April 2015

News of the Month

2015 Spring Business Roundtable

On April 1, 2015, the Economic Development Division sponsored a free workshop for Brentwood business owners. The topic for the Spring Roundtable was "Protecting your Assets - how and when to incorporate, the importance of business insurance, and how the business entity and insurance will affect your business tax situation."

The three-person panel included Frosty Andrews, CPA and owner of Andrews Consulting, Ed Younger, Attorney at Law of Alvis Quashnock and Associates, and Dirk Zeigler, owner of Zeigler Insurance & Financial Services, Inc. The attendance was comprised of business owners that operate home-based businesses to larger businesses with more than 100 employees.

The Economic Development Division staff would like to extend our appreciation to the business owners who attended, and especially to the panel members. Please be on the lookout for our next roundtable in the fall.

Home Energy Renovation Opportunity (HERO) Program

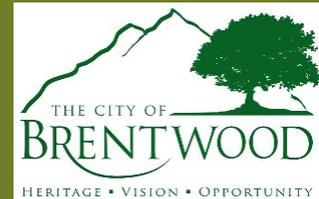
CaliforniaFIRST Program

(Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Financing)

Property owners in Brentwood will have another option for financing energy efficient projects.

Recently, the City Council adopted a resolution consenting to the inclusion of properties within the City of Brentwood's jurisdiction to finance distributed generation renewable energy sources, and energy and water efficiency improvements through the HERO and CaliforniaFIRST Programs.

The HERO and CaliforniaFIRST Programs offer PACE



Visit us at:

BusinessinBrentwood.com

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The Brentwood Economic Development eNewsletter is the City of Brentwood's newsletter for the business community.

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(925) 516-5405

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(925) 634-6911

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Financing, which is a financing mechanism that qualifies property owners to receive loans for energy saving projects that are repaid through their property taxes. Loans may be used for such projects as energy and water efficiency improvements (solar panels, heat reflective roofing, insulation, HVAC, windows, artificial turf, pool pumps), and electric vehicles charging infrastructure. The HERO and CaliforniaFIRST programs will offer the property owner assistance in qualifying for a PACE loan, finding a qualified contractor, cost estimates, and support throughout the entire program participation. Property owners can choose to participate in the program at their discretion --- the program is 100% voluntary. The program is available to commercial and residential property owners. For more information regarding the HERO and CaliforniaFIRST programs, please visit www.heroprogram.com and www.californiafirst.org. Information is also available at City Hall, Information Center, First Floor.

Tip of the Month

The Urban Farmers Comes to Brentwood



Got fruit trees? Don't know what to do with all your fruit? The Urban Farmers can harvest your fruit and donate it in your name.

The Urban Farmer will harvest backyard fruit, as well as plant and maintain fruit trees and Giving Orchards. The focus is on hunger relief and building healthy, resilient communities. Fresh, local, healthy food for all. There are several ways to participate:

- *Register as a volunteer (students may receive service credits for high school)
- *Donate a tree/trees
- *Become a member
- *Spread the word

You can learn more about The Urban Farmers at:

www.theurbanfarmers.org

Events for the Month of April

April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2015 - [Brentwood Farmers' Market](#)

April 17, 2015 - [Movie in the Park](#)

April 25, 2015 - [Tess' Community Kitchen - Mystery in the Orchard](#)

For more information on any of the events listed above, or for a full listing of events, please visit: [Economic Development calendar](#).