



Business News Update

April 2014

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INCENTIVES

BUSINESS
SEMINARS

SMALL BUSINESS
RESOURCES

BUSINESS
CALENDAR

Business in Brief

Commuter Benefits Program Deadline Approaching - City to Host Workshop



Bay Area

Commuter Benefits Program

CA Senate Bill 1339, signed into law in October 2012, requires Bay Area employers with 50 or more full-time employees to register for the **Bay Area Commuter Benefits Program** as well as select and offer at least one of four commuter benefit options by September 30, 2014.

511 Rideshare has created a webpage that discusses the program in greater detail, provides examples of current local employer programs, and offers resources such as an employer guide to program implementation. Additionally, the City of Dublin will host a workshop about the Bay Area Commuter Benefits Program on Thursday, June 5.

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The Dublin **Business News Update** is a monthly publication from the City of Dublin, highlighting the latest news and events affecting the business community.

For more information or assistance, please contact Erin Steffen or Linda Smith in the Economic Development Office at (925) 833-6650. For other information, please use the contact list below:

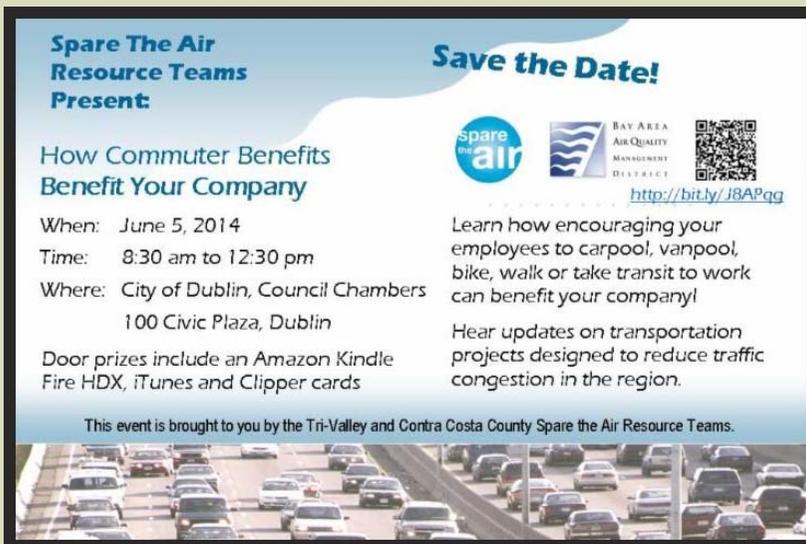
CONTACTS:

General Information
(925) 833-6600

City Council
(925) 833-6600

City Manager
(925) 833-6650

Community



Spare The Air Resource Teams Present:

How Commuter Benefits Benefit Your Company

Save the Date!

When: June 5, 2014
Time: 8:30 am to 12:30 pm
Where: City of Dublin, Council Chambers
 100 Civic Plaza, Dublin

Door prizes include an Amazon Kindle Fire HDX, iTunes and Clipper cards

Learn how encouraging your employees to carpool, vanpool, bike, walk or take transit to work can benefit your company!

Hear updates on transportation projects designed to reduce traffic congestion in the region.

<http://bit.ly/j8APqg>

This event is brought to you by the Tri-Valley and Contra Costa County Spare the Air Resource Teams.

To register your company's program, visit the **Bay Area Commuter Benefits Program** webpage.

PG&E Offers On-Bill Financing for Energy Efficiency Upgrades

Energy efficient upgrades are a great way for businesses to lower their energy use and reduce monthly bills. **PG&E's Energy Efficiency**

Retrofit Loan Program, also known as "On-Bill Financing," helps customers pay for energy efficient retrofit projects with zero interest, zero penalty loans.

The program works in conjunction with PG&E's energy efficiency rebate and incentive programs by eliminating upfront costs. After project completion, PG&E lends the money for the retrofit and the customer will pay the loan - interest free - through their monthly utility bills. Businesses may qualify for loans between \$5,000 and \$100,000 per PG&E meter, with loan periods up to 60 months.

To learn more about what types of projects are eligible, contact your PG&E Account Manager through the Business Customer Service Center at 1 (800) 468-4743 or visit www.pge.com/obf.

Business Tip of the Month

2014 Dublin Pride Week: Coming Together, Building Community

Join the City of Dublin in celebrating the 30th Dublin Pride Week, April 26 to May 3! Demonstrate your sense of pride and community by participating through volunteering - invite coworkers, friends, and neighbors **to sign up and make a difference**.

On Saturday, April 26 Dublin Pride Week kicks off with Volunteer Day, where volunteers work on projects that include mulching, weeding, painting and cleaning at city parks, the library, creeks, schools and senior homes. **Complete the volunteer registration form online** or call Environmental Services at (925)833-6650 to be added to one of the volunteer projects.

During the week a food drive will take place at local grocery stores; and on Saturday, May 3 there is a residential Household Hazardous Waste Collection and Compost Giveaway event (by appointment only). Also on Saturday May 3, at City Hall, a **Water Wise Workshop** will instruct residents on ways to reduce water use - join us for this fun, free and informative workshop.

Take a look at the calendar of events listed on our website - come together and build community for Dublin Pride Week!



New Online SBA Loan Gives Small Businesses Fast Access to Affordable Working Capital

SmartBiz is the first fully-online, automated SBA loan program offering low interest rates, an easy application process, and a speedy decision for loans ranging between \$5,000 to \$ 150,000 to qualifying businesses in all fifty states.

With longer repayment terms, low monthly payments, and no penalty for early payoff, SmartBiz lets small business owners keep more of their profit in-house to invest in growing a solid, sustainable business. SmartBiz has been available on a limited basis since late 2013 and has already received over \$25 million in applications.

"Small business owners shy away from SBA loans because the conventional bank loan process can take weeks or months to close. SmartBiz changes this by using technology to revolutionize the

Development
(925) 833-6620

Environmental Services
(925) 833-6650

Finance &
Administrative Services
(925) 833-6640

Fire Prevention
(925) 833-6606

Human Resources
(925) 833-6605

Parks and Community
Services
(925) 556-4500

Police (non-emergency)
(925) 833-6670

Public Works
(925) 833-6630

City of Dublin
100 Civic Plaza
Dublin, CA 94568

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process," said Evan Singer, General Manager at SmartBiz.

[Read more...](#)

Business News Around Dublin

Regency Centers Holds Groundbreaking Ceremony for Persimmon Place

On Tuesday, March 11 Regency Centers Corporation, a national owner and operator of grocery-anchored neighborhood shopping centers, hosted a groundbreaking ceremony to commemorate Persimmon Place, a new ground-up development taking shape at the southwest corner of Hacienda Drive and Dublin Boulevard. Several destination retailers have already confirmed leasing space at the center, including anchor stores Whole Foods Market, Nordstrom Rack and Homegoods. Regency Centers selected the name "Persimmon Place" to reflect the development's unique mix of retail shops and restaurants, noting that the persimmon bears the title "fruit of the gods."



"We are ecstatic to welcome Persimmon Place to our community," said Mayor Sbranti. "This center will offer the upscale, high-quality retail choices that residents of Dublin want and expect, and we couldn't be more pleased with the progress being made on this development." Persimmon Place is scheduled to open late Spring 2015.

Dublin Business Spotlight

Little Sheep Mongolian Hot Pot



The City of Dublin welcomes Little Sheep, one of the City's newest restaurants, to the neighborhood! Located at 4068 Grafton Street in the Grafton Station shopping center, this popular Chinese restaurant is making its mark in the Tri-Valley.

For those unfamiliar with Mongolian hot pot cuisine, the communal dining experience is "the forerunner to the modern fondue." The concept goes back hundreds of years to the nomadic Mongols, where tribes gathered together around a fire to cook fresh meats in a communal pot with simmering broth. **Little Sheep** emphasizes its use of fresh, healthy, high-quality ingredients, vegetarian dining

options, and a wide variety of spices and ingredients to add to your soup base.

Little Sheep Mongolian Hot Pot is open 7 days a week. Monday through Friday, lunch hours run from 11:30 AM to 2:30 PM and dinner hours from 5:30 PM to 10 PM. On weekends, Little Sheep is open 5 PM to 10 PM. To make a reservation, call (925) 361-8682.

Business Seminars & Events

- 4/21: Social Media Seminar (Fremont Public Library)
- 5/7: Getting Certified and Doing Business with the Government (Berkeley Public Library)

For more information on any of these events listed above, or for a full listing of events, please visit the [Business calendar](#) or subscribe to [Notify Me](#) alerts on the [City's website](#).