



224 Airport Parkway, Suite 620  
San Jose, California 95110  
(408)501-7864 Fax (408)501-7861  
[www.svlg.net](http://www.svlg.net)  
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May 12, 2010

Dear Members of the San Jose General Plan Task Force,

First and foremost, thank you for your commitment and dedication to the City of San Jose and region. Your participation as an Envision 2040 Task Force member has involved a great deal of time.

For the past few years, the Task Force has been grappling with some very important questions around housing and job growth. The members who comprise the Silicon Valley Leadership Group believe these two elements to be intimately linked. Both are important to maintain and grow a healthy community and vibrant economy.

As the Task Force continues to figure out how best to achieve the City's goals, I wanted to highlight two items:

1) CEO Survey: The Leadership Group recently released its 7th annual "CEO Business Climate Survey." This survey asks many questions of Leadership Group executives to try to understand how our region and state can continue to create the type of climate needed to attract and grow the innovation economy. While the report highlights many interesting issues, it is important to note that housing, for the 7th straight year, was selected as the top impediment to doing business in Silicon Valley. The full report is available on the Leadership Group website at: <http://svlg.org/press/library/index.php>

2) Affordable Housing Week Op/Ed: We also wanted to bring to the Task Force's attention an op/ed published by the San Jose Mercury News. The piece, by the President of BD Biosciences Cell Analysis, Jay Glasscock, highlights the link between jobs and housing while also drawing attention to several events to celebrate Affordable Housing Week. The op/ed is attached and is available on the Mercury News website at: [http://www.mercurynews.com/opinion/ci\\_15063796](http://www.mercurynews.com/opinion/ci_15063796)

Again, thank you for your time and commitment to this important General Plan update. Please use the Silicon Valley Leadership Group as a resource as you continue grappling with the key issues which will shape this city and region.

Sincerely,

Carl Guardino  
President/CEO  
Silicon Valley Leadership Group