MEDIA RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 2026

South County Investment Week to Showcase the Projects, Partnerships and Opportunities Shaping the Region's Future

Media invited to South County Investment Week kickoff Monday, November 9 at 9:00 a.m. at Pier Plaza in Imperial Beach

SOUTH COUNTY SAN DIEGO — The South County Economic Development Council (SCEDC) will host **South County Investment Week, November 9–13, 2026**, a weeklong series of events designed to showcase the investments transforming South County, highlight opportunities on the horizon, and bring together the investors, developers, business leaders, educators, policymakers and community partners helping shape the region's future.

Under the theme **"Today's Enhancements. Tomorrow's Possibilities."**, Investment Week will provide an up-close look at projects and investments already creating economic impact while serving as an amplifier for continued investment throughout South County.

MEDIA INVITATION

Monday, November 9 | 9:00–10:00 a.m.
Pier Plaza | Imperial Beach

Members of the media are especially encouraged to attend the **South County Investment Week Kickoff** on Monday morning.

County of San Diego Supervisor Paloma Aguirre, City of Imperial Beach Mayor Mitch D. McKay, Chairwoman Ann Moore, Board of Port Commissioners Port of San Diego, City of Chula Vista Mayor John McCann, City of National City City Manager Doug Schulze, along with other key community representatives, will help launch the week and highlight major projects, investments and initiatives shaping South County.

The kickoff will focus on what is coming next and the economic impact already being generated by investments in development, infrastructure, education, transportation, the waterfront, business growth and other areas throughout the region.

South County is home to communities experiencing significant transformation while occupying one of the most strategically important locations in California. With billions of dollars in international trade traversing the region and major investments occurring on both sides of the border, South County is not only **Where California Meets the World**, it is increasingly a catalyst for the San Diego of tomorrow.

“Investment Week is about bringing people into South County to see what is happening for themselves,” said **Jim O’Callaghan, President & CEO of the South County Economic Development Council**. “We want to celebrate the investments already strengthening our communities, connect the people who can help accelerate what comes next, and shine a light on opportunities to create better careers, stronger infrastructure, greater educational opportunity and an enhanced quality of life throughout our region.”

South County Investment Week Schedule

Monday, November 9 — Investment Week Kickoff & Opportunity Tour

The week begins with the **Investment Week Kickoff from 9:00–10:00 a.m. at Pier Plaza in Imperial Beach**. Regional leaders will discuss investments already underway, their economic impacts and projects and opportunities on the horizon.

That afternoon, the **South County Investment Opportunity Bus Tour** will run from **11:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., embarking from Chula Vista Center**. Investors, developers and community leaders will visit key development sites, projects and investment opportunities throughout South County.

Tuesday, November 10 — South County Investment Forum

9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. | National City MLK Community Center

The Investment Forum will bring together investors, developers, business leaders, public agencies and community partners for conversations about South County’s economic growth, development pipeline, major projects and emerging investment opportunities.

The South County Investment Forum will feature regional leaders including **Courtney Chase, Deputy City Manager for the City of Chula Vista; Douglas Schulze, City Manager for the City of National City; Steve Lockett, Deputy Director of Economic Development & Prosperity for the County of San Diego; and Tyler Foltz, City Manager for the City of Imperial Beach.**

The panel will provide perspectives on economic growth, development, investment opportunities and the projects shaping South County’s future.

Thursday, November 12 — Port of San Diego South County Impact Day

Thursday will highlight the enormous economic importance of the waterfront and the **Port of San Diego** to South County.

Programming begins from **9:00–10:00 a.m. at Pepper Park**, bringing together regional leaders and partners to highlight the waterfront's economic impact and the opportunities ahead.

A **Port Tour** will embark from Pepper Park, providing participants with an opportunity to experience firsthand the Port's role in commerce, employment, tourism, business activity and regional investment.

Waterfront Business Open Houses will take place from 1:00–5:00 p.m. at various locations, providing participants an opportunity to experience businesses, innovation spaces and development projects along the waterfront.

The day concludes with a **Bayfront Mixer & Community Market from 5:00–7:00 p.m. at the Living Coast Discovery Center.**

Friday, November 13 — South County Educational Investment Forum

1:00–3:00 p.m. | Southwestern College

Investment Week concludes by turning attention to perhaps the region's most important investment, its people. The Educational Investment Forum will highlight investments being made in education, workforce development, career preparation and industry partnerships and explore how those investments are creating pathways to family-sustaining careers and building the talent pipeline necessary to support South County's continued economic growth.

The South County Educational Investment Forum will feature leaders from higher education and workforce development, including **Chris Graham, Executive Vice President of Workforce & Community Education at National University; Dr. Carl Kemnitz, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs at California State University San Marcos; Dr. Sonja Pruitt-Lord, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs at San Diego State University; Dr. John Moore, Professor & Dean Emeritus at UC San Diego; and Dr. Mark Sanchez, Superintendent/President of Southwestern College.**

The panel will explore educational investment, workforce development, career preparation, industry partnerships and the talent pipeline needed to support South County's continued economic growth.

Throughout the week, SCEDC expects to bring together hundreds of investors, developers, employers, policymakers, educators and community leaders to see projects firsthand, develop relationships and better understand the opportunities emerging across the region.

Investment Week is designed to be more than a series of events. It will serve as an amplifier for further investment, a convener of the people influencing South County's future, a celebration of the extraordinary investments being made in education and workforce development, and a showcase for the possibilities still ahead.

SCEDC also recognizes the organizations and sponsors helping make the inaugural programming possible, including **TruckNet LLC, California State University San Marcos, U.S Bank, Neighborhood National Bank, Dalton, Talent Connect, ABC San Diego,Turner Construction, the Port of San Diego and Southwestern College.**

Businesses, investors, developers, community organizations, students, residents and others interested in South County's future are invited to participate throughout the week and discover where the region has been, how it is evolving and where it is going.

For additional information, registration and Investment Week updates, visit the South County Economic Development Council at:
https://southcountyedc.com/south-county-investment-week/

About the South County Economic Development Council

The South County Economic Development Council is a private nonprofit organization working to enhance South County San Diego's binational economy, image and quality of life. SCEDC convenes businesses, government, education, workforce organizations and community partners to support business growth, attract investment, strengthen infrastructure, develop the workforce and expand economic opportunity throughout the region.

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