

IB Chamber Of Commerce Network Breakfast Is March 26

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The Imperial Beach Chamber of Commerce will be hosting their next Network Breakfast on Thursday, March 26 at 7:15 a.m. Featured speaker will be Cindy Gomper-Graves, president and CEO of the South County Economic Development Council (EDC). The focus of her topic will be the the final draft of South County's EDC Visioning Project Strategic Plan.

San Diego's South County region is experiencing tremendous growth and opportunity for future development. Through the visioning project, South County EDC is working to connect and build on the synergy of South County's many projects, which include Brown Field, the Cross-Border Terminal and the Chula Vista Bayfront.

The visioning project, modeled after Our Greater San Diego Vision, is a five-year, strategic, economic development plan for San Diego's South County. The effort was launched in July 2013, and included focus groups, community workshops, outside research, expert interviews and a survey, which had more than 4,500 respondents.

"Our goal for the visioning project was to create an economic strategy for the region focused on investment opportunities and job creation," said Xema Jacobson, chair of the South County EDC. "We will now move forward based on the findings by engaging with the community to support future efforts. with an emphasis on the attributes of being a bi-national region."

The plan reveals specific industries that the South County EDC should be working to build over the next five years. Those industries include: aviation and aerospace; maritime; eco-tourism; advanced manufacturing; food manufacturing; and healthcare.

South County EDC new strategies are expected to expand international trade and commerce, promote the innovation cluster, grow the tourism industry and build on the specific industry clusters stated above. South County EDC will take the strategic plan, form focus groups and meet with business owners to develop an action plan. For more information on the project, or to see the full report, visit [www. SouthCountyEDC.com](http://www.SouthCountyEDC.com).

The Chamber Networking Breakfast is held at the Dempsey Holder Center, 905 Ocean Lane. Breakfast is provided to the Chamber members and their guests for a nominal charge. Socializing and breakfast begins at 7:15 a.m. and Gomper-Graves will begin her presentation at 7:30 a.m. For more information on the Chamber breakfast or the Chamber itself, call 619-424-3151.