



Press Kit

President's Welcome to Marin Economic Forum:

The Marin Economic Forum held its first, full board meeting in January 2010. Since this first meeting, the board and associate members have worked hard to develop an effective organization charged to improve the economic vitality of Marin County. MEF's successes to date include:

- The completion of many economic and community impact reports, providing critical data for organizations, economic effects of proposed plans and projects, as well as providing policy assistance to both local business and the County of Marin;
- The formation of action groups: collaborations with members of Marin's top industries, to generate resources, information and solutions to current economic issues;
- A partnership with the West Marin cheese industry that created a "Cheese Trail" map that advertises and encourages tourism in the agricultural lands of West Marin;
- Growing partnerships with the College of Marin and Dominican University in San Rafael that endeavor to match educational training with Marin's employment needs and encourage the incubation of entrepreneurial businesses favoring the environment, social equity and job creation as one ethos;
- Collaboration with chambers and other organizations to host various informative events, such as the annual "Forecasting the Future" Conference.

Thank you to MEF's Board members and interested parties who have contributed to the formation and successes of the organization. We extend a special thank you to the businesses, organizations and government entities that have contributed talent, treasure and time to further our goals. Marin County's beauty is not only in its landscapes but in the faces and labors of its dedicated public and private community.

Please go to www.marineconomicforum.org for more information and join us in this effort.

Most sincerely,



Haden Ongaro, *Board President*
Marin Economic Forum

Robin Sternberger, *CEO*
Marin Economic Forum

What MEF Does for Marin County's Businesses and Communities

MEF's Mission:

The Marin Economic Forum (MEF) is a public-private partnership that works to enhance Marin County's economic vitality, with a focus on targeted industries, to achieve economic, civic, environmental, and social goals.

MEF's Action Plan:

Marin County will be the first choice for businesses to locate, remain and expand with a focus on targeted industries that create jobs and utilize the unique assets of Marin County.

1. Attract, retain and grow Marin County businesses with a focus on targeted industries;
2. Facilitate a reduction in retail, office and industrial vacancy rates and augment in-fill opportunities;
3. Create and maintain a one-stop portal for economic and business related community information;
4. Develop and coordinate events and gatherings that assist in achieving MEF's Vision;
5. Advocate for business in Marin County per MEF's mission;
6. Coordinate services and programs for the County's businesses and non-profit organizations.

MEF's work creates a vital business climate in Marin County. MEF is the only countywide economic development organization. Our activities may already be benefiting your company, by:

- Raising Marin's business profile throughout the region;
- Promoting Marin's assets, attributes and "Work, Live, Play" environment to attract, retain and expand businesses in Marin, who in turn provide partnership, client, or consumer opportunities for your business.
- Publishing the first and only economic analysis specific to Marin's economic progress, industries and communities.
- Increasing the focus and engagement of our local policymakers on economic vitality as the key to a beautiful, thriving Marin

MEF is a non-profit organization (a fiscal sponsorship program of CVNL, a 501(c)3 corporation) and contributions are tax-deductible. Our donors become part of the Marin County ecosystem to support local businesses and our community's success. This ecosystem includes links and partnerships for events and networking to identify policy and supply chain links for all businesses in Marin County.

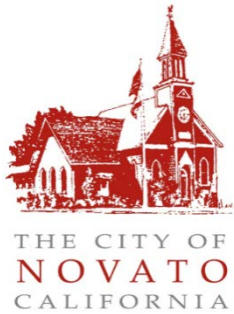
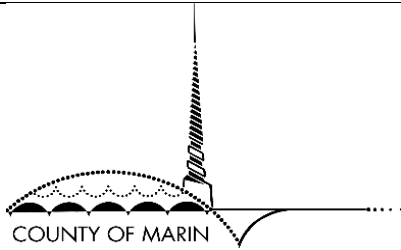
Current Slate of Events:

1. Forecasting the Future (partnership with San Rafael and Novato Chambers of Commerce);
2. Marinnovators is an event sponsored by MEF in which Marin County businesses show off their new ideas and cutting edge technologies.
3. IMPACT Marin (partnership with North Bay Business Journal); and
4. Leadership in Business Awards and Economic Breakfast (partnership with North Bay Leadership Council, North Bay Biz Magazine, etc.)

Contributors

The Marin Economic Forum would like to express their gratitude to the contributors that have supported the invaluable work and success of the organization

Marin Economic Forum Founding Sponsors



Marin Economic Forum Platinum Sponsors



George Lucas
Family
Foundation



Marin Economic Forum Gold Sponsors

Agricultural Institute of Marin
AT&T
Center for Volunteer and Nonprofit Leadership
College of Marin
Filice Insurance
International ProInsurance Services
Maher Accountancy
Marin County Visitors Bureau
Nelson Family of Companies
Opus Bank
Redwood Credit Union
San Geronimo Golf Course
SolarCraft
Straus Family Creamery

Marin Economic Forum Board Sponsors

Alders Financial
Hornstein Law Offices
Hospice by the Bay
Marin Clean Energy
Marin County Bldg. and Construction Trades Council
Marin Link
Newmark Grubb Knight Frank Commercial
Novato Chamber of Commerce
Pacific Union/Christies International Real Estate
Roundstone Farms/West Marin Chamber of Commerce
Sausalito Business Advisory Committee
Sausalito Chamber of Commerce
Winton-Strauss Law Group

For information, data, networking
opportunities and sponsorships, please
contact:

Marin Economic Forum

555 Northgate Drive Suite 255
San Rafael, CA 94903

Phone: 415 483-9332

Email: info@marineeconomicforum.org

www.marineeconomicforum.org