



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

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# Economic development at SLO County

- Goal: to improve the economic well-being of the County and its residents
- Board of Supervisors' priorities for FY2022-23
  - Public Safety
  - Housing and Homelessness
  - **Economic Development in the County**
  - Water Resiliency
  - Roads



# New role, new capacity

- Providing strategic direction to the Board of Supervisors and the Administration on the County's role in economic development
- Representing the County's interests on economic development issues
- Collaborating with internal and external stakeholders (private sector, chambers of commerce, WDB, educational institutions, regional development organizations, state and federal agencies, etc.)



# What falls under economic development?

- Long-term regional economic development planning
- Emerging industries (i.e. offshore wind, space and aviation)
- Business attraction, retention, and expansion
- COVID-19 economic relief and recovery
- SB1090 funds and repurposing of the Diablo Canyon site
- Enabling factors to economic development: housing, infrastructure, water, broadband
- Special focus on unincorporated areas of the County



# ARPA Grants - Overview

The Board of Supervisors provided direction to staff for \$9M in ARPA funding to be allocated to businesses, non-profits, and child care:

1. Businesses: up to \$3M
  - a. \$500K for COVID-19 relief grants for small businesses
  - b. \$2.5M in grants to local organizations to provide technical assistance for businesses, workforce development and job training for individuals impacted by COVID-19
2. Non-profits: up to \$3M in grants to non-profits negatively impacted by COVID-19 or to support services to community members impacted by COVID-19
3. Child care: up to \$3M in funding to community-based organizations for child care sector program relief and stabilization, program expansion (new slots) and quality improvement, and reinvigoration of the child care workforce

