



City of Arts & Innovation

# News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

October 19, 2012

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## **Riverside announces big job gains! Economic Development strategy helps put 1,400 to work**

**RIVERSIDE, Calif.** – The City of Riverside’s Office of Economic Development recently reported an estimated 1,400 jobs were created or retained for last fiscal year (July 2011 to June 2012) as a result of economic development strategies put into action last year.

This number reflects only those projects where City staff assisted and does not include an estimated 9,631 construction jobs that were added from various City, university and regional transportation projects during that same time period. In addition, almost 1,125 jobs are in the “pipeline” as a result of the team’s efforts.

Framed around [Seizing Our Destiny](#), the Economic Development Action Plan included a number of goals/action items which were organized into four distinct areas that describe the community’s shared vision for quality of life: **Intelligent Growth, Catalyst for Innovation, Location of Choice and Unified City.**

Riverside Mayor Ron Loveridge praised the plan saying, “...the inclusive spirit of Seizing Our Destiny leverages City staff and our partners such as the Chambers of Commerce, business improvement districts, our universities, and business and educational groups to attract as well as expand good jobs in Riverside.”

The strategy creates new ways of promoting business in Riverside. One notable strategy is the new [“Business First Program”](#). “Business First” provides businesses improved access to City staff and permit processing information. The strategy also provides a quarterly economic snapshot in partnership with the Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce and a new Business Attraction Strategy to bolster new job creation.

City Manager Scott Barber introduced the Economic Development Action Plan following his pledge to the City Council that jobs creation in Riverside was his top priority.

For more information on the Economic Development Action Plan, visit [www.riversideca.gov/manager/pdf/econdev-action-plan.pdf](http://www.riversideca.gov/manager/pdf/econdev-action-plan.pdf).

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**About the City of Riverside:** The City of Riverside, located in the Inland Southern California region, currently ranks as the 12th largest city in California, 6th in Southern California, and is the largest city in one of the fastest growing regions in the United States. Riverside's excellence in high technology, workforce development, digital inclusion, arts, innovation, collaboration and social capital resulted in the City being named the 2012 Most Intelligent Community in the World! As an economically vibrant and culturally diverse city, Riverside boasts high-end retail centers, a rapidly growing office population, and a charming historic downtown fused with upscale dining, shopping and entertainment venues. It is home to four internationally recognized universities and colleges which support a growing student population of more than 50,000. As an important financial and professional center, Riverside offers the support of numerous legal, accounting, brokerage, architectural, engineering, and technology firms as well as banking institutions. Businesses in the city benefit from city-owned electrical and water systems, high-speed fiber optic telecommunications, exceptional freeway system, BNSF and UPSP rail access, and a large corporate jet and general aviation airport.