



Growing Forward: An Economic Development Summit for the Redwood Coast

Join Us for the 2nd Annual Redwood Coast Region Economic Development Virtual Summit on September 22-23, 2022! Growing Forward: Shape the Change is a two-day virtual economic summit designed to foster innovative thinking throughout our region of Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, and Mendocino Counties, as well as adjacent tribal lands. Our goal is to identify economic opportunities and strengthen collaboration amongst our businesses, economic development professionals, and leaders. The conference will center on conversations and networking with a focus on industry opportunities, infrastructure needs, and improving quality of life for all in the midst of a changing economic, climactic and cultural landscape.

On Thursday, September 22, 2022, we will hear from keynote speakers addressing relevant topics for our region, and engage in interactive breakout sessions on key regional focus areas. We'll hear from Senator Mike McGuire, Tara Lynn Gray, Director of California Office of Small Business Advocacy, Robert Eyler, Professor of Economics at Sonoma State University, Caroline Beteta, President and CEO of Visit California, and Ken Hamik, Futurist.

Friday will provide a range of breakout sessions on exciting economic and business development opportunities for entrepreneurs and policymakers across the region, from broadband and medical care to food security, arts, culture, housing, and so much more.

This conference will be primarily virtual on September 22-23, 2022, but will include in-person networking opportunities in each county. In addition to the virtual presentations, participants will receive a conference package, including conference swag and a detailed program overview with highlights from our community. The robust virtual platform will make it easy to participate live, watch recordings later, network with other attendees, and participate in virtual exhibits.

This conference centers on three themes:

Social Infrastructure

Medical Care, Child Care, Food Security, Arts, Culture & Entertainment, Education (formal & informal, child & adult), etc.

Hard Infrastructure

Housing, Broadband, Ports & Airports, Roads & Transportation, Energy (microgrids, disaster preparedness), etc.

Emerging & Transforming Industries

Food/Farming, Tourism, Aquaculture/Fishing, Building & Construction, Manufacturing, etc.

Learn more and register for the conference at bit.ly/GrowingForward2022. Early bird registration tickets are \$60 through Friday, September 2. General admission tickets are \$75 thereafter. Attendees will get access to the live event, as well as recordings afterward, and a generous "swag bag" filled with goodies from our sponsors and a printed program highlighting the economic state of our region.