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**San José Continues Progress to Strengthen Business Climate**  
***Strategy approved for economic recovery and job creation,***  
***construction starts on bioscience incubator***

***San José*** --- San Jose made significant progress on several different projects and strategies this week toward achieving the city's goals of getting families back to work and supporting local economic recovery.

“This week shows how we are making a real difference for our local economy's ability to create jobs, attract and retain valued businesses, and give our local economy a much-needed boost,” said Mayor Ron Gonzales.

Yesterday Gonzales and the San Jose Redevelopment Agency launched the San Jose Bioscience Incubator and Innovation Center at a groundbreaking in the Edenvale Technology Park in South San Jose. The project, the first on the West Coast, will support the development of new technologies and entrepreneurs in the field of bioscience and biotechnology.

“This project will strengthen San Jose's leadership in the critically important emerging technologies in Silicon Valley,” said the mayor. “It will lead to the creation of new jobs for our resident and new opportunities for our businesses, and it will help make our city a major bioscience hub in the nation.”

On Tuesday, the City Council approved the mayor's recommendations for the San Jose Economic Development Strategy, which will guide the city's focused efforts over the next three to five years. The comprehensive strategy identifies 15 strategic initiatives the City will pursue in collaboration with business and community partners to facilitate a growing economy, achieve broad prosperity, and generate economic activity to support vital public services.

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The council also approved expansion plans by both eBay and BEA Systems for growth in the North First Street industrial area. This step ultimately will bring thousands of good jobs in the coming years, as well as support smart growth along a key transit corridor.

In addition the council approved the development of a new Lowe’s Home Improvement Warehouse at the former IBM site on Cottle Road.

“We are delighted that these great companies are committed to growing in San Jose,” said Gonzales. “I look forward to their success and the opportunities they will create for our residents, as well the economic benefits that will support valuable community programs.”

Also on Wednesday the Eastridge Shopping Center celebrated the start of construction to expand and renovate the 32-year-old center. The project will include a new movie complex, children’s play area, and many new stores and restaurants. The privately funded project demonstrates the confidence business has in San Jose’s future, observed the mayor.

“All these developments reflect the results that come from our commitment to make San Jose an excellent location for businesses to locate, grow, and create jobs,” he said.

“We have listened closely to the concerns of our business community about what we can do to help them thrive, and the steps we have taken in recent months are starting to pay off for our families getting back to work.”

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