

Business

Bay Area mayors plan new manufacturing initiative



Patrick Tehan/BANG Staff

Bay Area city officials are planning a new manufacturing initiative for the region, an effort that includes the mayors of San Jose, Oakland, Fremont and San Francisco

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SAN JOSE — Mayors in the Bay Area, including the leaders of San Jose, Oakland, Fremont and San Francisco, are planning a region-wide manufacturing initiative.

The effort acknowledges that technology and innovation have reshaped manufacturing, the organizers of the initiative say.

"The Bay Area has the potential to shape the future of this sector that creates a pathway to middle-wage jobs," according to a prepared release that was sent to this newspaper ahead of the kickoff meeting for the effort that is scheduled for Thursday in San Francisco.

The Thursday meeting is the inaugural Bay Area Summit on Urban Manufacturing. The group believes that demands for industrial space will remain strong.

PG&E, Citi Community Development and **non-profit SFMade** are leading the effort.

Other representatives are expected to include officials from Tesla Motors, which operates a large electric vehicle factory in Fremont; Jabil, which is exploring new manufacturing efforts at facilities in San Jose; Whole Foods; and **California Manufacturing Technology Consulting**.

"Setting aside competitive differences, these cities will discuss how they aim to grow manufacturing throughout the region to create jobs for entry-level and middle-income workers," the organizers said.

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