

Office of Economic Development

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James Watson, President & CEO of CMTC, City of San José, Mayor Sam Liccardo and Piranha Founder and CEO Richard Walkup at the Manufacture: San Jose launch event.

The City of San José Launches Manufacture: San Jose

In conjunction with nonprofits SFMade and CMTC California's Manufacturing Network, this new public-private partnership will deliver support to local manufacturers and work opportunities for people from underserved communities

SAN JOSE, Calif. – On behalf of the City of San José, Mayor Sam Liccardo has announced the launch of **Manufacture: San Jose**, a new program to sustain and grow the city's vibrant manufacturing base. With a workforce development focus, **Manufacture: San Jose** will help create jobs for adults and youth facing employment barriers, providing economic activities for a more inclusive and equitable San José. The announcement was made at advanced electronics manufacturer Piranha EMS at its facility in North San José.

Managed by SFMade, a California 501(c)(3) not-for-profit, with major funding from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and the James Irvine Foundation, **Manufacture: San Jose** will provide advising and hiring support to local manufacturers and create "makerships" for low-income high school students to facilitate manufacturing in San José.

"**Manufacture: San Jose** advances an important element of the manufacturing initiative that I launched in 2015, which aims to foster strong, continued re-shoring of manufacturing jobs in San José, and to generate thousands of middle-income jobs for our residents," said Mayor Sam Liccardo. "This program will support training and recruiting efforts to generate the skilled workers critical to a successful manufacturing sector in our city."

Piranha Founder and CEO Richard Walkup said: "Operating in the high-pressure environment of advanced manufacturing in Silicon Valley means we don't have time to research resources and evaluate services to help us deal with challenges. Having a single intermediary to engage with will be a huge time-saver as well as a resource."

"SFMade is excited to collaborate with the City of San José to deliver an integrated suite of business and workforce services to support the largest manufacturing city in the Bay Area," said Kate Sofis, CEO of SFMade. "We look forward to working with our program partners CMTC California's Manufacturing Network, Manex, work2future and others to support both legacy and emerging small manufacturers, and ultimately to contribute to San Jose's diverse cultural and economic ecosystem."

Additional funding for **Manufacture: San Jose** comes from Bank of the West, Citi Community Development and Wells Fargo. Services offered in 2018 include:

- California Manufacturer's Accelerator Program, providing growing manufacturing companies with intensive advising and support focused on key areas including, sales and marketing, finance, workforce planning, supply chain and real estate/space planning.
- Educational Workshops on a variety of topics addressing the specific needs of manufacturing companies.
- Manufacturing forums in partnership with the Silicon Valley Manufacturer's Roundtable, bringing together local manufacturing leaders to network, share ideas and address pertinent issues in the industry.
- Hiring Made Better manufacturing workforce program, in partnership with Work2Future helping companies to prepare for and hire from the local workforce.

More information about **Manufacture: San Jose** can be found at: manufacturesanjose.org

About SFMADE

SFMade's mission is to build and support a vibrant manufacturing sector in the Bay Area that sustains companies producing locally made products, encourages entrepreneurship and innovation, and creates employment opportunities for a diverse local workforce. In addition to providing direct business support and workforce programs for manufacturers in both San Francisco and San Jose, SFMade also runs the Bay Area Urban Manufacturing Initiative, a 27-city collaboration working to grow the regional manufacturing ecosystem. For more information, visit sfmade.org

About San José Office of Economic Development

The San José Office of Economic Development is committed to a vital, competitive San José economy that increases prosperity for people and companies. OED guides the city's economic strategy, provides assistance for business success, connects employers with trained workers, and provides art and cultural resources to our community. For more information, go to <http://www.sjeconomy.com>.

About the City of San José

Known as the Capital of Silicon Valley, San José is the nation's tenth largest city and the largest city in Northern California, with an ethnically diverse population of more than 1 million. San José was founded in 1777, once served as the state capital of California, and now encompasses 180 square miles. Facts about San José can be found here: <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/780>.

The City's website is www.sanjoseca.gov.

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