

## The Enterprise Zone Program

#### **Today's Topics**

#### State Incentive

#### √ California Enterprise Zone

- 1. California Enterprise Info
- 2. Enterprise Zone Areas
- 3. Hiring Tax Credit
- 4. Some Hiring Tax Credit Criteria
- 5. Sales & Use Tax Credit
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#### 1. California Enterprise Zone

- Designated in the 80's by the State to promote job growth and economic development in economically challenged areas
- Allows business owners to greatly reduce or eliminate their State income tax liability (corporate & individual income) by generating tax credits.
- There are 42 active zones
- Businesses located in a zone can generate tax credits with two methods
  - ✓ Hiring Tax Credit (based on employment)
  - ✓ Sales or Use Tax Credit (based on equipment purchases)



#### 2. Some Zones in Southern California

- ❖ New Zones as of May 2010: Chatsworth, Van Nuys, Canoga Park, Woodland Hills, Northridge, Sylmar, LAX area, L.A. expansions (San Fernando Rd, Glendale Blvd, Echo Park etc...)
- Los Angeles (North, East, South) Parts of LA County
- Long Beach, Compton, Lynwood, South Gate, Pasadena, Santa Ana
- Hollywood, Sun Valley, Pacoima, North Hollywood, Arleta, Van Nuys
- Santa Clarita, Palmdale, Lancaster, Newhall, Saugus, Valencia,
- San Bernardino, Colton, Hesperia, Indio, Thermal, Brawley, Fresno, Barstow
- San Diego, Chula Vista, San Ysidro, National City, Calexico



#### 3. Hiring Credit

- Businesses receive State tax credits for hiring eligible employees. Employees must fit 1 of 11 criteria.
- ❖ For each eligible employee, businesses will receive between \$8,000 - \$12,000 in State tax credits in the first year of employment. One qualified employee working over a five year period can generate \$24K to \$37K (These example figures are for a 2080/hr full time employee)
- Retroactive to four years, thus apply to both current and past employees.
- White collar (office tenant): 25% of workforce will qualify on average Blue collar (industrial tenant): 45% of workforce will qualify on average



#### 4. Some of the employee Hiring Credit Criteria

- Laid off from previous employer
- Target Employment Area Lives in designated area
- Ex-offender (misdemeanor or felony)
- Veteran
- Economically Disadvantaged
- Disabled
- Dislocated worker



#### 5. Sales & Use Tax Credit (equipment)

- Businesses receive State tax credit for purchasing qualified equipment after zone designation and before zone expiration
- The sales or use taxes paid at purchase could be claimed as tax credit
- Examples of qualified equipments:
  - ✓ Manufacturing, Printing, Sewing, Fabricating etc...
  - ✓ Data processing and communication equipments
  - ✓ Motion picture production equipments



### 6. Net Interest Deduction (NID) for Lenders

- ❖ Interest earned from loaning money to businesses in the Enterprise Zone is essentially free from CA state tax (using NID).
- Banks & Private lenders may benefit
- SBA loans, real estate loans, etc...
- As a business owner acquiring financing, this fact may give you the ability to negotiate lower interest rates with the bank.



#### 7. Other Info....

- Unused tax credits roll over and accumulate for future use and last for the life of the business as long as operations remain in the same zone.
- Tax credits may pass with the sale of the business.
- Tax credits may off-set STATE capital gains taxes
- Business owners may go back 4 years to claim tax credits. Refunds from Franchise Tax Board up to 100% of State Tax Paid for tax years: 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 & 2009
- ❖ Approximately 25% of the Enterprise Zone business community are actively taking advantage of the program.



#### **Enterprise Zone Consultant**

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