



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CENTER FOR ECONOMIC MOBILITY
RECEIVES APPROVAL FROM
CITY OF EAST PALO ALTO PLANNING COMMISSION**

EAST PALO ALTO, JANUARY 25, 2022 – LAST NIGHT THE CITY OF EAST PALO ALTO PLANNING COMMISSION APPROVED THE PROPOSED CENTER FOR ECONOMIC MOBILITY, A FOUR-STORY, 100,000 SQUARE FOOT SPACE THAT WILL HOUSE JOBTTRAIN, AND SEVERAL OTHER LOCAL BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS.

THE CENTER FOR ECONOMIC MOBILITY, LOCATED ON PULGAS AVENUE, WILL OFFICIALLY OPEN IN 2024 AND WILL BE DESIGNED AND BUILT WITH INPUTS AND FEEDBACK FROM THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY. JOBTTRAIN WILL OCCUPY TWO OF THE FOUR FLOORS, GREATLY EXPANDING JOBTTRAIN’S ABILITY TO PROVIDE MEANINGFUL AND SUSTAINED BENEFITS TO MORE PEOPLE IN EAST PALO ALTO.

JOBTTRAIN STARTED IN 1964 AND HAS BEEN A PART OF THE FABRIC OF THE EAST PALO ALTO COMMUNITY SINCE ITS INCEPTION. THE ORGANIZATION HELPS THE VALLEY’S MOST IN NEED RECLAIM THEIR LIVES FROM POVERTY AND UNEMPLOYMENT BY PREPARING THEM FOR SUCCESSFUL, SUSTAINABLE CAREERS IN HIGH-DEMAND AND EMERGING FIELDS.

“AS OUR CURRENT FACILITY IS AT CAPACITY, THE CENTER FOR ECONOMIC MOBILITY WILL ALLOW US TO CONTINUE TO OFFER OUR HIGHLY EFFECTIVE JOB TRAINING AND PLACEMENT, SUPPORTIVE SERVICES AND SKILLS UPGRADE CLASSES WHILE EXPANDING PROGRAMS AND

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SERVICES TO HELP MORE RESIDENTS GAIN ACCESS TO GREAT CAREERS RIGHT IN OUR BACKYARD.” SAID BARRIE HATHAWAY, PRESIDENT AND CEO, JOBTRAIN.

THE CENTER FOR ECONOMIC MOBILITY WILL BE ECO-FRIENDLY, UTILIZING BUILDING MATERIALS AND PRODUCTS THAT ARE DESIGNED TO PROMOTE HUMAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH. THE BUILDING IS ALSO ALIGNED WITH THE STREET SO THAT IT’S EASILY ACCESSIBLE FOR WALKING AND PREPARING FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF THE FUTURE WITH AMENITIES IN CLOSE PROXIMITY.

“EMERSON COLLECTIVE IS A PROUD PARTNER OF JOBTRAIN AND WE’RE THRILLED TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK ALONGSIDE OUR PARTNERS AND THE LOCAL COMMUNITY TO BRING THIS MEANINGFUL PROJECT TO LIFE, " SAID LORENZO BROOKS OF EMERSON COLLECTIVE.

EMERSON COLLECTIVE’S WORK IN THE COMMUNITY SPANS OVER TWO DECADES THROUGH COLLEGE TRACK EAST PALO ALTO, A COLLEGE READINESS PROGRAM THAT HAS SUPPORTED 500 COLLEGE GRADUATES SINCE 1997. THE PROPOSED SITE IS LOCATED AROUND THE CORNER FROM COLLEGE TRACK’S EAST PALO ALTO OFFICE.

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ABOUT JOBTRAIN

JOBTRAIN IS A 501(C)3 NONPROFIT EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING INSTITUTION ACCREDITED BY THE WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES. JOBTRAIN’S PROGRAMS COMBINE CAREER TRAINING, ACADEMICS, AND ESSENTIAL SKILLS DEVELOPMENT, PREPARING STUDENTS TO TURN THEIR LIVES AROUND—FROM UNEMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY TO SUCCESS AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY. PARTNERSHIPS WITH EMPLOYERS ENSURE THAT STUDENTS RECEIVE THE TRAINING THEY NEED SO THAT BUSINESSES CAN FIND MOTIVATED WORKERS WHO ARE WELL TRAINED FOR THEIR JOBS. FOR OVER 55 YEARS, JOBTRAIN HAS BEEN ADAPTING TO MEET CURRENT EMPLOYMENT NEEDS. SINCE ITS INCEPTION, MORE THAN 190,000 LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUALS AND THEIR FAMILIES HAVE BENEFITED FROM JOBTRAIN’S PROGRAMS.

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ABOUT EMERSON COLLECTIVE

EMERSON COLLECTIVE IS A SOCIAL CHANGE ORGANIZATION THAT USES A BROAD RANGE OF TOOLS INCLUDING PHILANTHROPY, IMPACT INVESTING, AND POLICY SOLUTIONS TO CREATE THE GREATEST GOOD FOR THE GREATEST NUMBER OF PEOPLE. EMERSON COLLECTIVE IS WORKING TO RENEW SOME OF SOCIETY'S MOST CALCIFIED SYSTEMS, CREATING NEW POSSIBILITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES.

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