

My top three priorities with regard to economic development would be:

- a. A comprehensive business retention strategy. San Francisco has more than 60,000 businesses. We need to make sure those businesses have their needs met here, and don't have to look elsewhere. I would convene a Business Summit in my first year in office with business leaders around the city and form a partnership to make San Francisco a place that welcomes business.
- b. I would look at the tax structure to see if we can provide incentives to attract new businesses to San Francisco. I believe that a payroll tax creates a disincentive to hire workers. San Francisco has lost more than 65,000 jobs in the current downturn.
- c. I would work with businesses to try to address other City problems (e.g. job training programs, on-site day care, etc.)

In order to foster growth of both small and large firms, I would help to create a more business-friendly environment by:

- a. Reducing the red-tape bureaucracy that businesses encounter.
- b. Reducing the anti-business rhetoric coming from the Board of Supervisors, by working with them to help recognize the advantage of a thriving business community.
- c. Reduce corruption and cronyism in City government through sound management practices and full accountability among department heads."
- d. Pledge to no new taxes.

Thanks for your interest.

Tony Ribera