

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

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**DATE:** November 21, 2011  
**TO:** Enterprise Zone Interested Parties  
**FROM:** Cathy Creswell, Acting Director  
**SUBJECT:** Enterprise Zone Listening Sessions

The Department of Housing & Community Development (HCD) will be holding informal listening sessions throughout the state to discuss improvements and modifications to the Enterprise Zone (EZ) program.

Recently, a number of different proposals have been made for improving the EZ program to increase transparency, accountability, cost effectiveness, and to more effectively stimulate job growth in California. HCD will solicit ideas and input to identify options for strengthening the effectiveness of the EZ program.

HCD is committed to having a transparent and open process throughout the listening sessions and through any potential administrative changes to the program.

As a starting point for initiating discussions, a list of potential EZ rulemaking and legislative topics are:

A) Potential Rulemaking:

1. Cleanup and streamline of out-dated regulations
2. Update criteria for issuing vouchers, including through limiting retroactive vouchers
3. Update auditing procedures and criteria
4. Modify award designation and expansion requests

B) Potential Legislative Recommendations:

1. Any of the above actions that cannot be accomplished by rulemaking
2. Review and consideration of existing legislative efforts
3. Modifications to improve new job creation in California
4. Changes in hiring credit payout schedule

HCD has scheduled two sessions and will announce future sessions in the new year.

**December 6, 2011**

**San Diego**

Location: Liberty Station Conference Center  
2590 Truxton Rd.  
San Diego, CA 92106  
Parking lot is south of the building  
1:30 to 3:30PM

**December 8, 2011**

**El Centro**

Location: San Diego Gas and Electric  
Conference Room  
1425 West Main Street,  
El Centro, CA 92243  
10:00AM to 12:00Noon

**RSVP to Attend:**

To sign up to attend one of the listening sessions, please fill-out and submit the optional electronic RSVP form at: <http://bit.ly/EZListening>. If you have any questions please contact Colin Parent, Director for External Affairs, HCD, by email: [cparent@hcd.ca.gov](mailto:cparent@hcd.ca.gov) or phone: (916) 445-4775.