



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONNECT ANNOUNCES AEROSPACE & ADVANCED MANUFACTURING WIN

San Diego, CA— CONNECT is pleased to announce that the U.S. Department of Commerce has selected Southern California as one of 12 manufacturing communities to receive the Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (IMCP) designation. The Southern California partnership, Advanced Manufacturing Partnership Southern California (AMP SoCal), was led by USC and includes the Counties of San Diego, Orange, Los Angeles and Ventura. This designation will open preferential access to \$1.3 billion in federal assistance for local aerospace and advanced manufacturing in Southern California and will be a great tool for not only for our regional job creation efforts but across the four counties.

CONNECT led the San Diego County initiative which includes, Biocom, City of San Diego, East County Economic Development Council, North County Economic Development Council, San Diego Regional Economic Development Council, San Diego Workforce Partnership, Sapphire Energy, South County Economic Development Corporation, UC San Diego, and Unified Port of San Diego.

The Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (IMCP) initiative is a U.S. Commerce Department-led program designed to accelerate the resurgence of manufacturing in communities nationwide by supporting the development of long-term economic development strategies that help communities attract and expand private investment in the manufacturing sector and increase international trade and exports. Over 70 applications, including 1 from Northern California, were submitted and the 12 were selected by an interagency panel, based on the strength of their economic development plans, the potential for impact in their communities, and the depths of their partnerships across the public and private sector to carry out their plans.

The San Diego partnership of AMP SoCal will focus on workforce development & training, creating a robust supplier network, development of new enterprises that manufacture products for the future, commercialization and access to capital for technologies originally developed for defense purposes, and infrastructure and trade development.
