

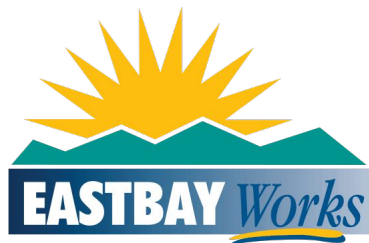
BAY AREA

Manufacturing Conference

AUGUST 27, 2026



CONFERENCE PARTNERS



CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

9:00 AM	Welcoming Remarks
9:15 AM	Plenary Panel: Bay Area Manufacturing Today & Tomorrow
10:00 AM	Breakout Sessions (4 total)
11:00 AM	Closing Plenary: California Industrial Policy Call to Action & Regional Collaboration
12:00 PM	End of Program

Optional tour of Zero Net Energy Center at the end of the conference.

Sign up at the registration table.

IN MEMORIAM



Linda Renteria

1960-2026



Co-Owner & Manager

WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS



Hon. Juan González
Mayor
City of San Leandro



Khaim Morton,
Deputy Treasurer
State of California



Stacy Cooper Dent, VP
Purpose & Strategic
Mobilization, Torani

PLENARY PANEL

Bay Area Manufacturing Landscape: Opportunities & Challenges

Taking a big picture look at Bay Area manufacturing, what's working, what isn't, and how can we work together to grow for the future?

Moderator: **Jessie Hammerling**, Director, Green Economy Program,
UC Berkeley Labor Center

- **Enrique Lopezlira**, Director, Low Wage Work Program, UC Berkeley Labor Center
- **Anna Waldman-Brown**, Industrial (R)evolution Fellow, California Forward
- **Mike Sponsler**, District Director, State Senator Tim Grayson
- **Paul Nguyen**, Chief Economic Development Officer, City of Hayward

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Panel 1: High Road Manufacturing Models

Room 108

Panel 2: Education, Training & Recruitment Pipelines

Room 113

Panel 3: Bay Area Manufacturing: Opportunities & Trends

Room 103 (Grand Lecture Hall - Main Room)

Panel 4: “Grow Your Own”: Resources for Manufacturers to Upskill

Room 114



PANEL #1: HIGH ROAD MANUFACTURING MODELS

How have employers and labor worked collaboratively to successfully build a high-skilled, high-productivity, workforce that benefits employers, customers and workers? We'll take a look at San Jose-based Therma as a case study.

Moderator: **Cesar Lara**

Director of Workforce & Economic Development,
California Federation of Labor Unions

- **Felix Gonzalez**
Director of Manufacturing and Prefabrication Operations
Therma
- **Keith Sylva**
Business Representative
SMART Local 104



PANEL #2: EDUCATION, TRAINING, & RECRUITMENT PIPELINES

What's working, what isn't, and what is the emerging regional landscape for manufacturing education? How can manufacturers access candidate pools and influence what training is being offered to the next generation workforce?

Moderator: Michael Katz, **EASTBAYWorks**

- Emily Dilger, Ignited
- Luis Ruelas, Bay Area Community Colleges Consortium
- Louise Auerhahn, Working Partnerships USA
- Tarecq Amer, West Oakland Jobs Resource Center
- Claire Michaels, **EASTBAYWorks**

Room #: 113



PANEL #3: BAY AREA MFG - OPPORTUNITIES & TRENDS

As the Bay Area's manufacturing landscape continues to evolve, learn from industry leaders and innovators about how they are navigating the present and envisioning the future in one of the most innovative regions in the world.

Moderator: Mark Martin, Regional Director of Manufacturing,
Bay Area Community Colleges

- Dr. Arun Jeldi, CEO, Velo3D
- Drew Sorley, Director, Capital Projects, Sila
- Jesse Moure, Director of Field Service, Formic
- Sanchit Gupta, Senior Robotics Engineer, Anyware Robotics
- Damario Rivers, Continuous Improvement and Training Supervisor, Torani



Room #: 103 - Grand Lecture Hall

PANEL #4: GROW YOUR OWN: INTERNAL TRAINING AND CAREER PATHWAYS

Explore options for employers to “grow your own” skilled workforce by building internal training and career pathways. Learn about resources available to support & fund those pathways, including public sector funding.

- Casey Gallagher, Machinists Institute
- Dr. Michael Shabaka, Manex
- Robert Meyer, California Employment Training Panel
- Lawrence Thoo, work2future

Room #: 114



BREAKOUT SESSIONS

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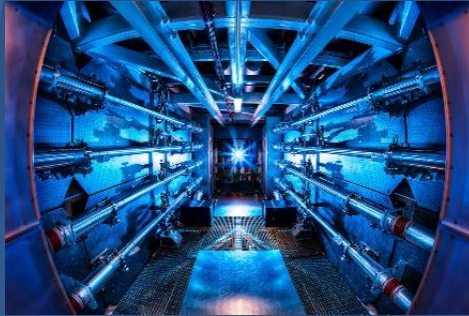
CLOSING PLENARY

What could a California industrial policy look like to support the growth of innovative industries?

Moderator: Betony Jones, Roosevelt Institute & UC Berkeley Labor Center

- Priyanka Mohanty - UAW Center for Manufacturing a Green Economy
- Peter Frischmann - Sepion Technologies
- Alvaro Sanchez - Just Solutions Collective
- Derrick Tang - New Energy Nexus California

STAY CONNECTED TO THE ECOSYSTEM



CONNECT WITH US

www.eastbayeda.org



@eastbayeda | eastbayeda.org

www.resilienteastbay.org

Learn About the East Bay Region



Insight into one of the world's most dynamic economies

The East Bay is home to one of the fastest growing regions in the U.S.

→ More About the Region
→ East Bay Cities & Towns

East Bay Innovation Awards
Grand Opening Reception on March 27, 2025. Tickets...

2024 Impact Report
Key findings from the past year...

RESILIENT EastBay

NEWS / BLOG ABOUT TRANSLATE

Key Industries Resources Industrial Lands Events CONTACT US

PROMOTING EAST BAY INNOVATION

The East Bay region in California is home to a dynamic and thriving innovation ecosystem. The region's manufacturing legacy and leadership in multiple technologies create a unique synergy that promotes cross-disciplinary innovation, with growing R&D investments in biosciences, climate tech, semiconductors, food and beverage, and transportation. The diversity of these economic activities keeps the region thriving and growing.

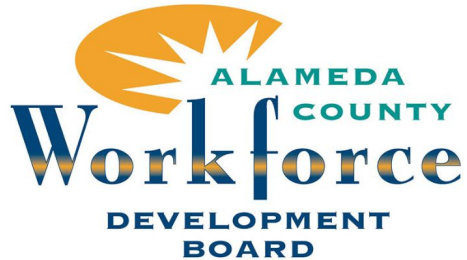
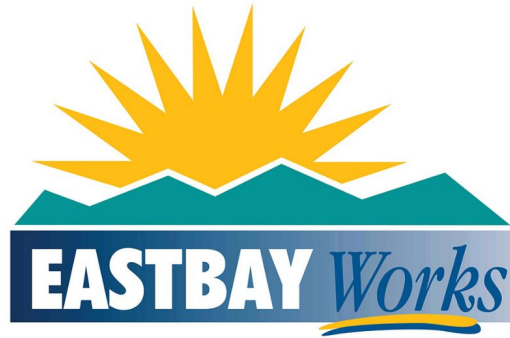


The East Bay is home to 3 national laboratories.

LEARN ABOUT EAST BAY RESOURCES →

Interactive Industry Map Resource Directory Industrial Lands Toolkit

As a regional voice and networking resource for the East Bay, we strive to provide timely information through our newsletters and social media channels. Follow us on social media and visit our website for the latest news and information on the East Bay economy and more.

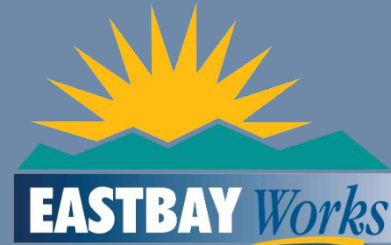


Workforce
Development Board
Contra Costa County



www.eastbayworks.org

STAY CONNECTED TO THE ECOSYSTEM: WHAT'S NEXT?



Worker Training Funds for Bay Area Manufacturers

Virtual Workshop: September 28, 4pm - 5pm

MFG DAY: OCT 2, 2026

Learn More



Need Help?



Register



STAY CONNECTED TO THE ECOSYSTEM: WHAT'S NEXT FOR BAHRMI?

- Releasing UC Berkeley Bay Area Manufacturing Labor Market Analysis – **Sept. 29.**
- Strategic research and communications.
- Providing no-cost technical assistance to qualifying Bay Area manufacturing employers, including:
 - Applying for public funding,
 - Support for environmental and workforce strategies.



STAY CONNECTED TO THE ECOSYSTEM: WHAT'S NEXT FOR BAHRMI?



- Launching Career Concierge to connect small and medium manufacturers with workforce.
- Supporting jobseekers to access pathways into living-wage manufacturing careers.
- Coordinating a collective effort to grow a high-road manufacturing sector in the Bay Area.

STAY CONNECTED TO THE ECOSYSTEM: CONNECT WITH BAHRMI



- If you are interested in learning more, participating, or joining the BAHRMI email list, please sign up here:



<https://go.wpusa.org/a/bahrmi-updates>

- For highlights, follow BAHRMI on LinkedIn:
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/bahrmi/>

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