

# @WESTMARC

October/November 2008

## WESTMARC to Unveil Work Force Labor Market Study

The WESTMARC Economic Development Committee will present the West Valley Economic Development Symposium on November 6, 2008 at Avondale City Hall, 11465 W. Civic Center Drive, Avondale, beginning with a continental breakfast at 7:00 a.m.

The event was held last year and featured presentations from each

community highlighting their economic successes and an economic forecast for the up-coming year. In addition to the community updates, this year the event will feature the long-awaited roll out of WESTMARC's Work Force Labor Market Study.

The study will be the first of its kind nationwide, and will be a valuable

tool for businesses and communities interested in recruiting, developing and retaining strong economic partners in the West Valley.

The event is \$50 for members and \$65 for non-members and at the door. To obtain a registration form or for more information, please contact Darah Mann at [darah@westmarc.org](mailto:darah@westmarc.org).

## November 4 Election: WESTMARC Positions on Propositions

Several years ago WESTMARC expanded the numbers and roles of its committees. The expanded role was to provide members with more information and to consider public policy issues more in depth.

There are now six "issue" committees: Economic Development, Education, Healthcare, Public Affairs, Transportation, and Water.

In the course of this year's committee work several positions emerged relative to ballot propositions on the November ballot. The Executive Committee and/or Board of Directors (excluding our municipalities, who abstained)

accepted the issue committees' recommendations and adopted those positions on ballot propositions.

As the November 4 election is rapidly approaching we felt that it might be helpful to know WESTMARC's recommendations on the ballot propositions.

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| • Prop 100 - Protect Our Homes                         | Neutral |
| • Prop 101 - Medical Choice for Arizona                | Oppose  |
| • Prop 105 - Majority Rules -<br>Let the People Decide | Oppose  |
| • Prop 200 - Payday Loan Reform Act                    | Oppose  |
| • Prop 201 - Home Owner's Bill of Rights               | Oppose  |
| • Prop 202 - Stop Illegal Hiring                       | Support |
| West Valley School District Unification (4)            | Oppose  |

WESTMARC only made recommendations on those propositions related to our mission in some way. The propositions were thoroughly evaluated by our committees, and we are grateful to the Committee Chairs and members for their careful consideration and hard work.

For anyone wishing more detail on the reasoning behind our positions please consult the state Voter Information Pamphlet or call me at the WESTMARC office.

From ballot propositions, to county and state legislative elections, to electing our president, the coming election is extremely important to us all.

Please join me in exercising one of our most fundamental and important rights: please vote on November 4<sup>th</sup> or by early ballot!

Jack

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

A note from  
Jack Lunsford  
President/CEO



## November/December 2008 Meeting Schedule:

Best of the West**	Oct 30	Thur	5:30 pm
Water	Nov 4	Tues	3:30 pm
Eco.Dev.Symposium***	Nov 6	Thur	7:00 am
Public Affairs	Nov 7	Fri	10:00 am
Education	Nov 12	Wed	7:30 am
Executive	Nov 13	Thur	7:00 am
Health Care Summit**	Postponed		
Health Care - Tour**	Nov 18	Tues	8:00 am
WMEZ TAG	Nov 18	Tues	1:00 pm
Transportation	Nov 20	Thur	7:30 am
Board of Directors	No November Meeting (see Dec 3)		
WESTMARC Closed	Nov 27 & 28	Thur/Fri	
Board of Directors* (Legislative Roundtable)	Dec 3	Wed	7:30 am
WMEZ Commissioners	Dec 4	Thur	10:00 am
Public Affairs	Dec 5	Fri	10:00 am
Education	Dec 10	Wed	7:30 am
Executive	Dec 11	Thur	7:30 am
4th Annual Golf Classic###	Dec 11	Thur	10:30 am
Transportation	Dec 18	Thur	7:30 am
WESTMARC Closed	Dec 25 & 26	Thur/Fri	

All Meetings held at WESTMARC unless noted otherwise. Members will be sent a reminder by email prior to the meeting date and will be notified in the event of a meeting change/cancellation.

\*Western International University

\*\*Luke AFB

\*\*Renaissance Glendale Hotel

###Raven, Verrado

\*\*Avondale City Hall

## Western Maricopa Enterprise Zone (WMEZ) Up for Renewal

WESTMARC is the administrator for the Western Maricopa Enterprise Zone (WMEZ), which expires this year. The Enterprise Zone program is designed to develop job-creating land use and induce capital investment in economically disadvantaged areas.

In order to increase the boundaries of the existing zone as well as add Gila Bend and Wickenburg, WESTMARC must apply to the Department of Commerce as a completely new zone. The new zone, if approved, will include the communities of Avondale, Buckeye, El Mirage, Gila Bend, Gila River Indian Community, Glendale, Goodyear, Guadalupe, Maricopa County, Peoria, Phoenix, Surprise, Tolleson, Wickenburg and Youngtown, and will encompass 6,474 square miles of Maricopa County.

WESTMARC staff is in the process of compiling the 165 page application with information provided by the WMEZ Technical Advisory Group and Commissioners.

The state will only approve six new zones; applicants will be notified of their status by February 2, 2009. For more information on the Enterprise Zone, visit [www.westmarc.org](http://www.westmarc.org) and click on the WMEZ link under Partnerships.

### WESTMARC STAFF

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## 4th Annual Golf Classic

The Golf Classic has traditionally been an event where three golfers are matched with an elected official to round out their foursome. This year will offer the same opportunity, and we've added a little holiday cheer with a fun "Red and Green" theme.

In addition to sponsorships that include foursomes, special hole sponsorship opportunities offer a great way to get involved even if you don't golf. Some ideas include Festivus Refreshments, Snowball Longest Drive (golfers compete for Longest Drive using frozen marshmallows), or Santa's Cookies (golfers are treated to yummy snacks). Santa may even make an appearance!

The Golf Classic is an excellent opportunity to network with other WESTMARC members and local dignitaries, as well as spending the day enjoying our beautiful December weather.

Don't miss this chance to be included as a golfer OR a sponsor. Contact Amber Botamer at 623-435-0431 ext. 205, or [amber@westmarc.org](mailto:amber@westmarc.org).

Sponsorship/Reservation forms are also available online at [www.westmarc.org](http://www.westmarc.org).

## On the Horizon:

**16th Annual Best of the West Awards  
Renaissance Glendale Hotel, Glendale  
Thursday, October 30, 2008**

**5:30 p.m. Reception**

**7:30 p.m. Dinner/Awards**

Join us for our Signature Event! This year's event is a Masquerade theme - costumes optional.

**Economic Development Symposium  
Avondale City Hall**

**11465 Civic Center Drive**

**November 6, 2008**

**7:00 a.m. - noon**

Work Force Labor Market Study roll-out and annual updates from each of our West Valley Communities

**Health Summit**

**Renaissance Glendale Hotel, Glendale**

**RESCHEDULED - Date to be Determined**

**4th Annual Golf Classic**

**Raven, Verrado**

**4242 N. Golf Drive**

**December 11, 2008**

**10:30 Registration**

**11:30 Shotgun Start**

Planning is underway for WESTMARC's 4th Annual Golf Classic - mark your calendar and practice your putting skills!

**Coming in 2009:**

**Governor's "State of the State" Luncheon,  
WESTMARC's Annual Meeting and  
Economic Forecast Breakfast, and more!**