Re-Employing Urban Manufacturing Zones for the 21st Century

Deborah Acosta
Chief Innovation Officer
City of San Leandro, California
dacosta@sanleandro.org

Chris Brewer
Vice President, Economics and Planning
AECOM
chris.brewer@aecom.com

Jason Chandler
Vice President, Director of Project Management
Epstein
jchandler@epsteinglobal.com

Geary Smith
Vice President, MBAF
G&W Electric Company
gsmith@gwelec.com

#ULIRMZ
Re-Employing Urban Manufacturing Zones for the 21st Century
Provocative Issues

- US Manufacturing recovery is both real, and in its infancy
- “ADVANCED MANUFACTURING” is different
- Manufacturing, logistics, and freight movement are inexorably connected. (follow the trucks)
- Urban industrial districts are under pressure
Under pressure
“Tool & Die Capital of the World”
Warning... economic data follows
Manufacturing Recovery

It's easy to talk recovery.....
Manufacturing Recovery

…but some deliberate serendipity may be in order
Fuel Costs

Gasoline and Diesel fuel are no longer aligned....

US Fuel Prices, Average Annual, 1996 to 2016

- US Regular Gasoline Reformulated
- US No 2 Diesel
- US Gulf Coast Kerosene Jet Fuel
Implications
Manufacturing Recovery

Advanced Manufacturing is a family of activities that:

- Depend on the use and coordination of information, automation, computation, software, sensing, and networking.

- Utilize cutting-edge materials, advanced processes, and emerging capabilities in the physical and biological sciences (nanotechnology, chemistry, and biology).

- Are additive; products move through several assembly stages over large distances using third party logistics providers, linked by nimble supply chains.
Manufacturing Recovery

- Recovery in Automotive
- Reshoring and the Pivot from China to Mexico
- Abundant Natural Gas
- (Until Recently) Growth in Exports
- Local Food Production
- Makerspaces
Implications

Industrial Real Estate Considerations
– Distribution buildings want to get bigger
– Manufacturing buildings want to get smaller
– Need for secure truck courts

Economic Development Considerations
– 75% of economic development is growing existing companies
– Are incentives aligned with capital investments or job creation?
– Understand local connectivity to global chains
– Manufacturing, Distribution and Services are different
– Workforce training is a serious concern
– Zoning: Light assembly is not heavy manufacturing
– Social justice implications
Implications

- Dramatic changes in utility markets (microgrids)
- Third Party Logistics Providers
- Two wider canals (Panama & Suez)
- Transportation infrastructure funding
- Zoning and Land Use: protect industrial areas
What do Urban manufacturing Zones Look like?
Milwaukee – Menominee Valley
Keys to Revitalization

Keys to revitalization

- Opportunity to pivot toward higher value uses
- Access to Federal and State grants: Brownfields
- Allocation of local and state transportation dollars
- Tax Increment Financing
- Special Districts (BID) to fund operations and capital

What to Watch

- Chicago – Planned Manufacturing District Zoning