



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS HOST TOWN HALL MEETING TO DISCUSS PROPOSED MERGER ON OCTOBER 22

Ukiah, CA. October 15, 2018. – The business community is invited to attend a town hall meeting to discuss a proposed merger between the Greater Ukiah Chamber of Commerce, the Ukiah Main Street Program, and Visit Ukiah. The event will be held at the Ukiah Valley Conference Center on Monday, October 22nd, from 6:00 – 7:30 pm.

With similar missions and often-overlapping board members, these three organizations are exploring new ways of working together and consolidating resources. The respective boards have been discussing the various aspects of a possible merger, and are now soliciting the input of the larger community.

The Greater Ukiah Chamber of Commerce is a member-based nonprofit organization that focuses on the promotion of businesses Valley-wide through networking opportunities and special events. They also manage a scholarship program for local high school students and helped bring the Mendocino County Construction Corps to our area.

The Ukiah Main Street Program is a nonprofit organization that focuses on historic preservation, strengthening businesses, and increasing economic vitality in the historic downtown. Part of their funding comes from business licenses within the Downtown Improvement District and the remainder comes from events like Taste of Downtown and Pints in the Plaza.

Visit Ukiah is the area's visitor attraction program and is managed by City of Ukiah staff and a volunteer board. This entity focuses on marketing and promotion of the Ukiah area, particularly in the Bay Area and other parts of Northern California, and includes advertising in

major magazines and representation at travel and leisure trade shows. Funding for Visit Ukiah comes entirely from the transient occupancy tax (bed tax) collected from Ukiah hotels.

To RSVP for the event, please contact Shannon Riley, Deputy City Manager, at sriley@cityofukiah.com or (707) 467-5793. Childcare and refreshments will be provided; please indicated whether child care is needed in your RSVP.

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