



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DLBA NAMES AUSTIN METOYER AS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & POLICY MANAGER

*Downtown management and leadership organization selects CSULB alumnus
in expanded role filling vacancy left by out-going Economic Development Manager Adam Carrillo.*

LONG BEACH, CA (August 23, 2018) – The Downtown Long Beach Alliance (DLBA) has named Austin Metoyer as its Economic Development and Policy Manager in an announcement made today by President and CEO Kraig Kojian.

Metoyer has been part of the DLBA team since February 2016 serving as its Research and Policy Manager. During his tenure, Metoyer enhanced data collection with critical analysis leading to advocacy positions taken by the organization on such issues as minimum wage, housing and density. Metoyer also produced sector-specific information on the Downtown retail, office and housing markets, which are published in DLBA's quarterly report, *Snapshot*, and with more expansive data in its annual publication, *Downtown Economic Profile*.

“Austin has demonstrated great leadership and initiative and has proven his capabilities by his involvement in all aspects of the organization including conducting research, forming advocacy and building community coalitions, to recommending public policy initiatives and analyzing budgets,” said Kojian. “His contributions to our team have been invaluable, and I’m proud that he’s well-prepared, willing and extremely qualified to assume the roles and responsibilities associated with this expanded position.”

In his new role and broadened capacity, Metoyer also assumes the responsibilities related to serving as a liaison for Downtown investors, developers, businesses and brokers through the recruitment, retention, planning and entitlement processes. DLBA's economic development endeavors have expanded to include re-engaging a strong partnership with CSULB and overseeing projects such as the entrepreneur education series, small business grants, Woman-Owned Business Accelerator program and other projects to help foster Downtown's entrepreneurial ecosystem.

“It has been a privilege to serve the DLBA in my current capacity and I look forward to the expanded role where a solid foundation has already been laid out that encourages new investment and positive economic growth,” said Metoyer. “I plan to continue delivering and building upon this infrastructure for current and future Downtown stakeholders.”

An active member within the urban place management profession, Metoyer serves on the Board of Directors for the California Downtown Association (CDA) and on the Research Committee for International Downtown Association (IDA).

Before his arrival to the DLBA, Metoyer served under former Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa's Office of Economic and Business Policy, as well as the National Foreign Trade Council in Washington DC. During his stint in DC, he served as Senior Project Analyst for Brailsford & Dunlavey, a real estate planning firm, assisting with data collection and analysis, public-private partnerships, and feasibility/market data analysis.

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Metoyer is active within the Long Beach community and serves as Treasurer for Long Beach State University Alumni Association and Chairman of the Board of Governors for his fraternity Phi Kappa Tau, Inc. He completed his BS in International Business at Long Beach State University and is a graduate of Long Beach Poly High School. Metoyer and his partner, Justin, live in Downtown Long Beach with their French Bulldog, Mochi.

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About DLBA: The Downtown Long Beach Alliance is a 501(c)6 non-profit, community-based organization whose mission is to cultivate, preserve and promote a healthy, safe and prosperous Downtown. By balancing the interests of the residents, as well as businesses, the DLBA creates tangible progress by way of vested interest and solidified partnerships across local, municipal, and commercial lines. For additional information, visit www.downtownlongbeach.org.

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