

## Support for the Lompoc Valley Chamber of Commerce

Dear Lompoc City Council Members,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing as a proud 25-year resident of Lompoc to express my strong opposition to any effort to dissolve our Chamber of Commerce. I respectfully urge you to reconsider such a move, as it would be a significant loss to the future and vitality of our rural community.

As someone who graduated from the Leadership Lompoc Valley program in 2010, I've experienced firsthand how the Chamber plays a transformative role in developing local leadership, strengthening community bonds, and supporting economic resilience. The Chamber is far more than a business organization — it's a catalyst for growth, collaboration, and civic pride.

If we lose the Chamber, we lose:

- Support for Small Business: The Chamber provides essential mentorship, resources, and visibility that help local entrepreneurs and small businesses thrive.
- Community Events & Engagement: From fairs and fun runs to fund raising and public forums, the Chamber brings people together and fosters a sense of belonging and shared purpose.
- Economic & Workforce Development: The Chamber connects residents with job training, resources, and opportunities critical to the stability of our rural workforce.
- Local Advocacy: It stands as a nonpartisan voice for Lompoc's interests at the county, state, and federal levels.

The Leadership Lompoc Valley program is just one example of the Chamber's long-standing commitment to empowering local leaders and strengthening our town. I can personally attest to the value it has brought to my life and career, and I know many others can too.

Let's not move backward. I urge you to support and preserve the Lompoc Valley Chamber of Commerce. In doing so, you are investing in the strength, character, and future of our community.

Thank you for your time, leadership, and thoughtful consideration.

Warm regards,

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