



Hello Pacifica Business Community!

As we head into spring, we're sharing a few important updates and opportunities to help keep our community informed, safe and connected.

First, we want to make businesses aware of a scam currently circulating through local jurisdictions that uses official-looking city or county branding to appear legitimate. Please take a moment to **review the tips** below on how to protect yourself and verify any suspicious communications.

In this edition of Business Matters we're bringing you practical resources and opportunities to help your business thrive. From workshops on business credit and exploring AI tools, to exciting grant opportunities for ambitious entrepreneurs, there's plenty here to help you strengthen, and expand your business.

Whether you're looking for funding, guidance, or practical tips, there's something here to help your business thrive.

Alyssa Corsetti
Management Analyst II



Criminals Impersonating City and County Officials in Phishing Emails for Planning and Zoning Permits



SCAM ALERT

BE AWARE OF FRAUDULENT MESSAGES!



- Beware of unsolicited emails, calls, or texts requesting personal information or payment.
- Check the sender's email address carefully.
- Avoid clicking on suspicious links or attachments.
- Contact the City directly if in doubt!

THE CITY WILL NEVER DEMAND IMMEDIATE PAYMENT OR SENSITIVE INFO!

Tips to Protect Yourself

- Don't assume an email is legitimate just because it uses city or county letterhead, seals, official names, or proper spelling and grammar.
- Carefully verify the sender's email address. Make sure the domain matches the official contact and watch for extra characters or subtle misspellings.
- Visit the official city or county website to see if there are alerts about impersonation or phishing schemes.
- If the message mentions outstanding fees, call the city or county office directly using the phone number listed on the official website to confirm.

[Learn More](#)

Building Your Business Credit



This session is designed to help small business owners understand the fundamentals of business credit, what it is, how it differs from personal credit, and how lenders assess creditworthiness. You'll learn actionable strategies for building a positive payment history, maintaining manageable debt, and using credit strategically to support future growth. Whether you're planning to apply for a loan or strengthen your financial foundation, this webinar offers practical insights and expert guidance. Register now to reserve your spot!

April 8th | 2:00pm

[Learn More](#)

Smart Credit Strategies for Small Business Owners



We've got a valuable online webinar coming up that's open for registration! This session is hosted via Zoom Webinar, a virtual event format where presenters share insights and you can participate by listening, viewing slides/content, and asking questions via chat or Q&A. Whether you're seeking business tips, educational content, or expert advice, this webinar is a great way to learn and engage from your desktop or mobile device. All you need to do is register using the link below to secure your spot. Once registered, Zoom will send you an email with the join details for the live session.

[Register](#)

Makers Mindset Grant



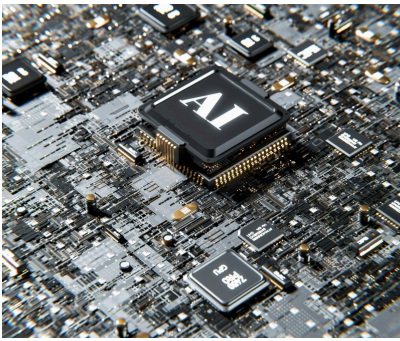
The Spring 2026
Makers Mindset Grant

The Spring 2026 Makers Mindset Grant is now open and offering \$30,000 in equity-free funding to support early-stage, women-led consumer brands across sectors like beauty, food, beverage, pet, home goods, and tech goods. Three selected founders will each receive a \$10,000 grant along with access to community mentorship, visibility opportunities, and group office hours designed to help grow their business and expand their impact.

Applications close: April 10, 2026

[Learn More](#)

AI Basics



Discover how AI can save time, cut costs, and drive smarter decisions for your business. In this one-hour webinar, we'll break down AI basics, showcase practical tools, and provide actionable steps to help you start leveraging AI, no technical experience required!

April 9th | 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m

Register

Free Tax Help



VITA TAX CLINIC:
ACCESS FREE TAX HELP FROM HOME!



THIS IS WHAT YOU'LL NEED TO FILE YOUR TAXES:

- Photo ID & Social Security for each adult on tax return and dependents OR
- ITIN number (if you don't have a SSN)
- W-2s from all jobs
- All 1099s, 1098s, and any other tax forms
- Last year tax return if you have it
- Savings AND checking account numbers (routing number for direct deposit of refund)



MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS
4 - 8 PM

IF APPLICABLE BRING:

- Health Coverage Statements: Forms 1095-A, B or C
- Childcare provider information

1. total amount paid to the daycare provider
2. daycare provider's tax identifying number (SSN or EIN)



MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT AT
[HTTPS://CALENDLY.COM/VITARENCENTER/TAXAPP2](https://CALENDLY.COM/VITARENCENTER/TAXAPP2)

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL vita@recenter.org

Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center is proud to partner with United Way Bay Area to bring the VITA Tax Clinic to our community again this tax season!

If you need assistance filing your taxes, our trained volunteers are ready to support you — completely free. Appointments begin next month, so now is the perfect time to claim your spot.

Learn More

Galaxy Grants

Regardless of Where You Are In Your Small Business Journey,

Galaxy Grants Are For You! *New, Experienced, or Aspiring.*



**Thinking About Starting A
Business**



Just Starting Your Business



Experienced Business Owner

The Galaxy Grants program from Galaxy of Stars offers an easy, free application for a chance to win \$3,500 to support your small business goals. Whether you're just starting, growing, or scaling, the application takes just seconds and could help fuel your next steps. Plus, previous Galaxy Grants have supported entrepreneurs across the country with funding and visibility. Don't miss this opportunity

Application Deadline: April 30, 2026

[Learn More](#)

Start Pivot Grow Grant



Start.Pivot.Grow. is a national small business accelerator and resource platform dedicated to helping entrepreneurs plan, scale, and secure capital to build sustainable, profitable ventures. Through tailored education, strategic advising, workshops, pitch competitions, and access to funding—including grant opportunities and non-dilutive capital—this program supports founders at every stage of growth. Whether you're refining your business strategy, preparing for financing, or aiming for your next revenue milestone, Start.Pivot.Grow. provides tools, guidance, and community to help you succeed. Learn more about their programs and how to get involved

Applications Due: April 30, 2026

[Learn More](#)



**ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT TEAM**

Meet Our Economic Development Team



Yulia Carter
Assistant City Manager
ycarter@pacifica.gov



Gretchen Heckman
Economic and Housing
Development Manager
gheckman@pacifica.gov



Alyssa Corsetti
Management Analyst II
acorsetti@pacifica.gov

Learn More About Pacifica's Economic Development Committee

[Next EDC Meeting Details](#)
[Economic Development Agendas and Minutes](#)



RESOURCES

Visit our City webpage for a full list of available resources

Questions & Comments? Contact Us!
econdev@pacifica.gov.

City of Pacifica | 170 Santa Maria Avenue | Pacifica, CA 94044 US

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