

EQUINOX CENTER

HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT. STRONG ECONOMY. VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

[HOME](#) [ABOUT US](#) [RESEARCH TOPICS](#) [REGIONAL DASHBOARD](#) [MEDIA CENTER](#)

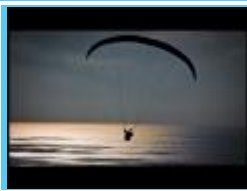
In This Issue

[I-5 Widening: Boon or Boondoggle?](#)

[Efficient Water Management: Just Good Business](#)

[The Future of Transportation](#)

[Quality of Life Dashboard On Tour](#)



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[News](#)

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May 2011 e-Newsletter

I-5 Widening: Boon or Boondoggle? Water Efficiency as a Competitive Advantage, Dashboard On Tour, and more...

Equinox Convenes: "I-5 Widening: Boon or Boondoggle?"



On May 6, Equinox Center convened [State Senator Christine Kehoe](#), Caltrans' [Laurie Berman](#), Equinox supporters, and other business and community leaders to engage in direct dialogue and explore all sides of the [hotly debated I-5 widening](#). Our [Voice of San Diego commentary](#), [blog](#) and a

related [ABC Channel 10 News](#) segment highlight key questions raised.

Although a [compromise](#) has nearly been reached, both Senator Kehoe and Caltrans' Laurie Berman agreed many of these questions remain unanswered. The truth is that uncovering answers to these types of questions, so that policy makers can make better, more informed decisions, requires further research. Senator Kehoe herself reiterated that this is the vital role Equinox can play for the region. The event was hosted by Mintz Levin.

(Did you miss this event? [Contact us](#) if you'd like to be included in future events like these.)

Water Management for Competitive Advantage



Equinox Center will shortly share comments on the region's strategies for improved water efficiency as laid out by the [County](#) and [City's](#) Urban Water Management Plans. While a diversified water supply is important, [research commissioned by Equinox Center](#) shows that becoming

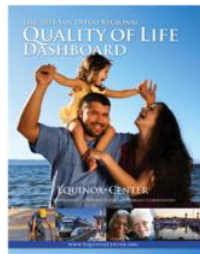
more efficient with our existing water supplies is one of the least expensive ways to address our region's water challenges. As [two homegrown companies](#), a [national bestseller](#) and famed investor Warren Buffett can attest, leading companies have already figured out that improved water management practices, their associated cost-savings and reduced reliance on "foreign" (imported) water [can improve the "triple" bottom line](#). Could San Diego achieve competitive advantage as a region by becoming a national model for efficient water management? Express your opinions by providing comments to the [San Diego County Water Authority](#) (comments due June 3) and [City of San Diego](#) (comments due June 6).

What is the Future of Transportation in San Diego?



Two recent studies (click [here](#) and [here](#)) looking at where San Diego scores in terms of walkability and pedestrian safety vividly drive home the importance of the [Regional Transportation Plan](#) under development-particularly its strategies to facilitate active transportation (e.g., biking and walking). Equinox participated in a panel discussion on May 26 on the future of transportation and the viability of alternative-energy modes of transportation, hosted by the [Downtown Encinitas Mainstreet Association](#). We are also supporters of [CleanTECH's June 9 discussion](#) on electric vehicles and their potential role in the transportation ecosystem. Comments on the RTP are due to SANDAG on June 30 and multiple [public hearings are scheduled](#) throughout the region. Get involved!

Quality of Life Dashboard Goes On Tour



Equinox Center's [2011 San Diego Regional Quality of Life Dashboard](#) has hit the road: highlights, "bright spots" in our region, and policy implications are being presented to City Councils, area students and already nearly 100 business and community leaders. To request a 10-minute Dashboard presentation for your organization, [contact us](#).

Are You Missing Our Facebook and Twitter Updates?

Following us on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) is a simple way to stay abreast of major policy decisions and news and with impact on quality of life in the San Diego region.