

# EQUINOX CENTER

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## **Equinox Center Launches Leaders 2020, Civic Engagement Network for Millennials**

*Young Adults Step to the Plate to Help Solve San Diego Region's Greatest Growth Challenges*

**November 18, 2011 (San Diego, CA)** – Equinox Center announces the launch of Leaders 2020, a civic engagement network to harness the energy, passion and creativity of the San Diego region's more than 500,000 young adults toward solving our region's greatest growth challenges.

"Leaders 2020 fills a need that has long been unmet: the voices of our most creative generation have not been present in our regional planning and decision making," said Ann Tartre, Executive Director of Equinox Center. "With the launch of Leaders 2020, that changes today."

"With the population growth that's already projected for San Diego, I worry we're going to take too much time to figure out how to manage it intelligently and that the place that I love to live is going to change for the worse," said Kyle Dupree, an inaugural Leaders 2020 member. "That's what motivated me to join Leaders 2020 – it's a way of being part of the solution."

A core group of nearly 60 young people like Dupree are already a part of Leaders 2020, and have been instrumental to developing this initiative from the ground up. That includes crafting a [Call to Action](#) to the San Diego region's elected officials, policy and decision makers, as well as signing a personal promise to working to solve regional growth challenges by staying informed, contributing ideas and through volunteerism and civic engagement.

Key issues on which Leaders 2020 will focus include:

- Rising costs of living, an hour-glass economy and escalating traffic congestion
- Fierce competition from other regions for top talent
- Sprawling development patterns that increase transportation costs and hurt public health and the environment
- Preservation of our region's prized beaches, natural areas and exceptional quality of life while accommodating another 650,000 new residents by 2020

To join Leaders 2020 or simply to learn more, visit <http://www.equinoxcenter.org/leaders2020>. Membership begins at \$50.

**About Equinox Center**

**Equinox Center** is an independent, non-partisan, not for profit policy and research center that turns research into action to help the San Diego region achieve a more prosperous economy, healthy environment and outstanding quality of life for all its residents. Led by a distinguished board of directors representing business and community leaders from across the region, Equinox uses policy analysis, communications and convenings to inspire, inform and engage the public and decision makers in crafting bold and intelligent solutions to balance regional growth with finite natural resources. [www.equinoxcenter.org](http://www.equinoxcenter.org)

**Contact:**

Emma Leggat  
Communications Director  
Equinox Center  
(760) 230-2960  
[emma@equinoxcenter.org](mailto:emma@equinoxcenter.org)