

# Business Connection



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## Pleasanton business climate is key driver of community's success

Pleasanton is widely recognized as a premier community in which to live, work and do business. Pleasanton companies generate close to 50% of the local tax base and collectively act as the community's economic engine.

"The Pleasanton Chamber and City of Pleasanton have a strong partnership in supporting our business community," said Kim Damiani, chamber board chair. "It's an honor to come together each year to celebrate companies with a strong commitment to Pleasanton."

The City of Pleasanton and Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce partnered to recognize five outstanding businesses as economic drivers in Pleasanton on June 14, 2022. These companies represent a wide range of industries driving the local economy and have a strong presence in the Pleasanton community.

"Our business community is known for its strength and diversity in which company leaders find as an excellent environment to start, build, expand, and thrive here in Pleasanton," said Mayor of Pleasanton Karla Brown.

The companies recognized as Pleasanton's economic drivers develop and deliver products and services that address essential needs; they substantially boost the local economy; and they generate a significant benefit in Pleasanton through the revenues they generate, the residents they employ, and the



Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce Board Chair Kim Damiani (far left) and Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown (far right) partnered to recognize Pleasanton's Economic Drivers at Ruby Hill Winery in Pleasanton (left to right): Jeremy Davis and Joe Pagano of Hendrick Automotive Group, Chris Orzen of Anixter, Lauren Foote and Trista Okuda of Macy's, and Michele Hodge of 10x Genomics. Not pictured: Home Depot.

value they bring to the marketplace.

**10x Genomics**, representing the life sciences industry sector, is a global leader in building tools for scientific discovery that reveal and address the true complexities of biology and disease. "10x is truly a homegrown company and started as a quintessential startup story with eight people in a garage, all of whom have a passion to accelerate the mastery of biology to advance human health," said Michele Hodge, VP, Global Real Estate & Facilities for 10x Genomics. "10x does this by developing tools that

help researchers. We've grown to over 1,200 employees globally, more than half of those work in Pleasanton, and many of those live in Pleasanton, so we are very committed to the city," said Hodge.

**Anixter**, representing the business and industry sector, is a global online distributor of network and security solutions, electrical and electronic solutions, and utility power solutions, with local solutions including enterprise, industrial, OEM, and security. "Pleasanton is one of the most successful branches we have in the

organization and we're in 54 countries," said Chris Orzen, Director of Global Operations for Anixter.

**Hendrick Automotive Group**, representing the automotive industry sector, is a leading automotive retailer committed to its team members and the manufacturers it represents. "Between the Hendrick Automotive Group, we represent Acura, Lexus, BMW and Mini and have just over 300 employees between the stores," said Joe Pagano, General Manager, East Bay BMW/Mini.

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### Economic Drivers

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**Home Depot**, representing the construction and building industry sector, is a leading home improvement retailer committed to its employees, to local job creation, to helping contractors grow their respective businesses, and to offering retail customers with high quality home improvement products and services. "A customer is the most important visitor on our premises," said Store Manager Roberto Mendez. "He is not dependent on us. We are dependent on him."

**Macy's Department Stores**, representing the retail industry sector, is a leading retailer committed to its employees, and to offering retail customers with the most convenient and seamless shopping experience. "Macy's Pleasanton is celebrating 40 years this year. We employ several hundred colleagues at this time of year, and that ramps us drastically in the fourth quarter," said Lauren Foote, Store Manager for Macy's. "As a result of the community's success, it results in our store's success, and that allows us to give back. One of the acknowledgements I wanted to make is to the partners we give back to, like the Alameda County Food Bank, Valley Humane Society, Reading is Fundamental and more," continued Foote.

Each of these industry leaders demonstrate that Pleasanton really is the right address for many types of businesses. "On behalf of the Pleasanton City Council, I want to thank all of the Pleasanton Economic Drivers for being a valuable part of the Pleasanton business community," said Mayor Brown. "Your success is part of our success – and we celebrate you and wish you many more years of prosperity in our city."