

# COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT ACT 2023-2027 STRATEGIC PLAN AMENDMENT

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	LETTER FROM THE CEO	3
II.	ABOUT US	5
A.	. Background	5
B.	Our Vision and Mission	6
III.	CRA PROGRAM GOVERNANCE	7
A.		
B.		
C. D.	,	
IV.	BANK PRODUCTS	
л <b>.</b>		
A. B.		
С.		
D.		
E.		
F.		
G.		
V.	BUSINESS STRATEGIES AND TACTICS	10
VI.	COMPETITION	12
VII.	STRATEGIC PLAN OVERVIEW	13
A.		
B.	. Mission Valley Bank Assessment Area (AA)	13
VIII.	. HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE – SMALL BUSINESS LOANS	16
A.		
B.		
С.		
D.		
IX.	MEASURABLE GOALS - AMENDED	
X.	AMENDED PERFORMANCE GOALS- SMALL BUSINESS LENDING WITHIN THE AA	19
A.		
B.		
XI.	PERFORMANCE GOALS – COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	23
A.		
B.		
C.		
XII.		
A.		
B.	. Mission Valley Bank Partnerships	-
		T-1

Mission Valley Bank Community Reinvestment Act Strategic Plan 2023-2027

C.	MISSION VALLEY BANK RECOGNITION FOR CIVIC ACTIVITIES	35
XIII.	COMMUNITY OUTREACH	35
A.	Lending Actions	
B.	Lending Channels	
C.	Community Development Investments	
D.	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAN	37
XIV.	SATISFACTORY AND OUTSTANDING GOALS	
XV.	ONGOING REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE GOALS AND STANDARDS	
XVI.	REQUEST FOR APPROVAL	
ASS	SESSMENT AREA MAP	

## I. LETTER FROM THE CEO

The Community Reinvestment Act of 1977 ("CRA"), was created to encourage depository institutions to help meet the credit needs of the communities in which they operate, including low- and moderateincome neighborhoods. Our community, also known as our assessment area, encompasses the markets around our full-service branches, or the markets around our loan production office.

Neither the CRA, nor its implementing regulations, give specific criteria required of depository institutions toward meeting the credit needs of their assessment area. Rather, the law indicates that the process for meeting CRA obligations should accommodate an institution's individual circumstances.

The CRA regulation contains an option for banks called the "strategic plan". This option allows an institution to develop a plan, with community input, detailing how the institution proposes to meet its CRA obligations. The plan is tailored to the needs of the community using direct community input at the development stage. The institution informally seeks suggestions from the public while developing the plan and once developed it must publish notice of the plan and solicit written public comment for at least 30 days. After the comment period, the institution submits the plan to its regulator for review and approval.

Mission Valley Bank (Mission Valley Bank) elected to be evaluated under a CRA Strategic Plan, which was originally approved on February 11, 2021. This Plan covers the goals from 2021 to 2025. Mission Valley Bank is requesting an amendment of the plan to revise the goals for 2023 to 2027.

Since the CRA Strategic Plan was approved, Mission Valley Bank has worked diligently toward meeting the goals established in the Plan. Our efforts have produced positive results; however, we have been unable to meet some of the goals, which we feel were not set up realistically. The "Small Business Lending Goals for AA by Year" set at 8% as a percentage of Average Assets has been very challenging. When the plan was established, we did not consider the impact that the increase in assets would have in the Bank's goals given the Bank's assessment area. Despite our efforts, and with the economic challenges brought up by the Pandemic, the Bank has not produced anything close to the 8% of average assets goal. Therefore, in order to meet our CRA goals and continue servicing the Bank's assessment area, the Bank has reassessed its goals as detailed in the Plan and is requesting FDIC approval. In addition, communication with community groups have identified a greater need that focuses more in the community development area.

The Plan Amendment covers five years from January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2027, and sets specific benchmarks for the Bank to help meet the needs of our community through lending, investment, but mostly through community development activity goals.

The Plan includes working in partnerships with community organizations to ensure the needs of small businesses are being met, along with the revitalization of low- and moderate-income areas within our assessment area. We will achieve this by promoting the availability of small business loans, focus on financial education, community investments and service.

To develop the Plan, Management took the following steps:

• We evaluated the Bank, including the current business model, relevant financial information, business strategy, products, performance context and competitive environment.

- We considered assessment area demographic information and economic conditions.
- We then assessed the community development and credit needs of our community. During this phase of development, we evaluated various resource material and interviews with, or presentations from, representatives of community development agencies.
- Finally, we developed the strategic goals for the Bank's lending, investment, and service activities. The goals are responsive to the needs of the community and appropriate within the Bank's performance context.

We also believe the Bank's assessment area is appropriately delineated. The assessment area consists of two Census County Divisions, Newhall, CA, and San Fernando Valley. The assessment area includes the census tracts where our branch offices are located and does not arbitrarily exclude low-and moderate-income areas.

Mission Valley Bank is committed to providing answers to the needs of the communities served by the Bank, the executive management and/or members of the CRA Committee continually meet with local community development organizations; state, county and local government departments and agencies; and other organizations and agencies to identify specific needs and programs to discuss the credit and banking needs of low- and moderate-income persons, families and communities.

We invite your comments relating to our Plan. Individuals with questions or comments may contact us at:

Mission Valley Bank 9116 Sunland Boulevard Sun Valley, CA 91352 Attention: Tamara Gurney, President & CEO Phone: (818) 394-2300 Email: <u>TGurney@MissionValleyBank.com</u>>

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Tamara Gurney President and CEO Mission Valley Bank

## II. ABOUT US

#### A. Background

Mission Valley Bank's (Bank) corporate headquarters is currently located at 9116 Sunland Blvd., Sun Valley, CA 91352. The Bank's full-service retail branches are located at:

- Sun Valley Bank Branch (Main Branch) 9116 Sunland Blvd, Sun Valley, CA 91352 CT 1021.07 Middle Income
- Burbank Branch
   2777 Ontario St. Suite 130
   Burbank, CA 91504
   CT 3105.01 Moderate Income
- Santa Clarita Branch
   26701 McBean Parkway, Suite 100
   Valencia, CA 91355
   CT 9203.28 Upper Income

Mission Valley Bank (Mission Valley Bank or Bank) is an independent community business bank with a rich history of supporting the deposit and credit needs of small to medium sized businesses and commercial property owners in the San Fernando Valley and Santa Clarita Valley communities.

Bank organizers and founders are comprised of local business individuals and bankers who have worked in—and served—the Bank's community for more than 30 years. The Bank recognizes the importance of developing and building strong affiliations within the community and responding promptly and accurately to every client's needs and the needs of the community in which it serves.

The Bank's service philosophy is based on knowing the Bank's clientele, responding to their unique financial needs, and working to earn the role as a Trusted Advisor. Familiarity with local industries, an ability to make decisions locally, and providing a staff that is well known by individuals and businesses in the area serves as the foundation from which the Bank builds its success.

The Bank is a California State chartered Bank, regulated by the California Department of Financial Protection and Innovation (DFPI) and by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (FDIC), who insures our deposits up to the amount allowable by law.

Mission Valley Bank has been designated Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) since 2006. The Bank received Bank Enterprise Award (BEA) recognition through the U.S. Treasury Department program for its active lending to distressed businesses. Mission Valley Bank has been receiving monetary awards since 2007 for a total of \$5,185,884 under the BEA Program for its lending and support of various CDFI Partners.

On April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the CDFI announced the awardees for the Equitable Recovery Program. Mission Valley Bank was awarded \$4,957,678.

The Bank focuses on providing loans to small businesses to buy, construct, and/or refinance commercial real estate that houses their business (owner-occupied properties), through the U.S.

Government's Small Business Administration ("SBA") lending programs.

To fund loans, the Bank focuses on obtaining deposits from local businesses and individuals in the markets around our branches.

For the year ending December 31, 2023, the Bank's Financial Annual Report reported total assets of \$654 million, total loans of \$511 million, total deposits of \$524 million, and equity capital of \$53 million. The Bank is designated as "well-capitalized", the highest designation for capital levels given by the FDIC. The Bank is well capitalized with a Tier 1 Capital Ratio of 12.28%.

#### **B.** Our Vision and Mission

It is the Bank's mission to serve the credit needs of low-and moderate-income people, geographies, small businesses, and community development organizations within its CRA Assessment Area in a manner that is consistent with safe, sound, and prudent banking practices and within the Bank's capacity. To accomplish this, the Bank continuously evaluates its products and services considering its CRA Plan in order to determine whether they support the enhancement of the economic vitality of the communities it serves. It is the Bank's commitment to offer added value in every customer relationship. The Bank believes this philosophy, coupled with an experienced and dedicated team of banking professionals, will result in continued growth in local businesses and a successful bank that supports an exceptional community.

The Bank continues to focus primarily on commercial banking and is committed to meeting the credit and banking needs of the communities it serves within its Assessment Area. The Bank products and services are responsive to the needs of its entire community. Our mission will focus on:

- 1. Supporting local, small businesses.
- 2. Working with local community-based organizations to identify opportunities for the Bank to participate in community development loans, investments and services that help support or meet the community development needs in our assessment area.
- 3. Working with organizations that offer innovative loan products that are targeted to LMI persons and geographies, along with small businesses.
- 4. Working with local community-based organizations to identify opportunities for the Bank to participate in investments for community development service expectations for the Bank's branches, encouraging staff and executives to participate with community partners.
- 5. Loan products that consider affordable housing and community development needs of small businesses particularly those with Gross Annual Revenues of less than \$1MM
- 6. New products and services that are developed, working with community-based organizations remaining responsive to the credit needs of LMI families and geographies and yet meeting the Bank's prudent underwriting standards.
- 7. Continue to grow SBA loan volume year over year, taking into consideration the Bank's assessment area.
- 8. Making small businesses aware of the services available for them at Mission Valley Bank by:
  - Marketing our products and services throughout the Bank's assessment areas;
  - Target marketing to reach traditionally underserved segments within the communities the Bank serves and to Low-Moderate income tracts inside the Bank's assessment area;
  - Expand market presence among traditionally underserved neighborhoods, through working with community-based organizations.

- Providing support for financial literacy, budgeting and money management programs targeted to individuals or businesses with limited experience with banks or banking.
- Providing access to resources in affordable housing, community and economic development and small business lending.

## III. CRA PROGRAM GOVERNANCE

#### A. Board and CRA Committee Governance

The Bank's Board Audit Committee actively provides an oversight of the development and implementation of the CRA Plan and has approved it. The Bank's CRA Committee is tasked with oversight of the implementation of the Plan. CRA Committee membership includes the CRA Officer, Community Development Manager, Marketing Manager, Chief Credit Officer, Managing Director of SBA, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Operating Officer, and the CEO/President.

Responsibility for assisting the Bank to meet its Community Reinvestment objectives and goals is that of all Bank employees. Roles and responsibilities related to critical activities required to successfully implement the Bank's CRA Plan are as follows.

#### **B.** Board of Directors Audit Committee

The Board of Directors Audit Committee is responsible for:

- Establishing a climate and culture supportive of CRA throughout the Bank.
- Providing approval of the Bank's Community Reinvestment Act Plan and ensure it is updated regularly and as needed, in conjunction with the full Board.
- Requiring updates of the CRA Plan goals to reflect future activity, such as: branch closures, branch openings, mergers, acquisitions, or other relevant changes.
- Holding executive officers accountable for meeting CRA Plan goals.
- Receiving quarterly reports and program updates from the CRA Officer (quarterly at a minimum).
- Reviewing the Bank's CRA lending, investment, and service activities quarterly.
- Assisting the full Board in meeting its oversight responsibilities for CRA program direction and oversight.
- Ensuring that management is adequately engaged in its communities and has incorporated feedback in the CRAProgram.
- Ensuring a Quarterly CRA self-assessment is conducted.
- Providing the CRA Officer and the Community Development Manager with a direct line of communication to the Bank's board.

#### C. CRA Officer/CRA Committee

The Board has appointed Senior Management with the responsibility of the leadership required to fully implement this Strategic Plan. Oversight and administration are the responsibilities of the Bank's CRA Committee. The Bank's CRA Officer chairs the CRA Committee and is responsible for actively monitoring the existing and future Strategic Plan and administering the CRA Program. The CRA Officer reports quarterly to the Board's Audit Committee regarding the Bank's progress toward meeting the goals included in the Strategic Plan.

The CRA Officer reviews issuances from the FDIC and other banking agencies regarding CRA compliance and community development, in order to maintain best practices in the area of CRA. The CRA Officer and the Community Development Manager attend targeted training events for CRA officers and community development professionals.

The CRA Committee is responsible for:

- Encouraging the development of loan products that enhance the Bank's ability to meet LMI credit needs consistent with the Bank's commitment to safe and sound lending.
- Developing expertise in leveraging private and government subsidies to enhance LMI and CD lending.
- Performing marketing and community outreach to support achievement of CRA Plan goals.
- Periodically reviewing the Bank's assessment area to ensure that low-to-moderate income neighborhoods are not arbitrarily excluded.
- Review and monitor the following:
  - Bank's overall policy and goals concerning CRA activities.
  - CRA performance in helping to meet the credit needs of all the communities the Bank serves.
  - CRA investment and service performance
  - CRA outreach and marketing efforts
  - Comments received from the public on the Bank's record in meeting its obligations under CRA.
  - The establishment, closure, and relocation of branch offices to evaluate effects to lowto-moderate income tracts serviced by the branch, and overall CRA performance effects.

#### D. Community Development Manager

The Community Development Manager is tasked with:

- Meeting periodically with representatives from local community development organizations.
- Serving as a liaison between the community and the Bank by initiating and maintaining regular communications with community development organizations, and other community-based entities.
- Promoting CRA-qualified investments when opportunities are available, consistent with the Bank's investment and CRA requirements.
- Contacting and seeking partnerships with government and community development organizations to enhance product offerings to LMI residents and small businesses and for economic development.
- Reaching out to community groups and encouraging officers and employees of the Bank to volunteer to assist LMI persons and areas of the community.

The Community Development Manager is encouraged by the Bank's President & Chief Executive Officer to participate actively in community groups that are aware of the community's needs. In

addition, other officers are encouraged to assist LMI community groups through service on groups' boards of directors or otherwise.

## **IV. BANK PRODUCTS**

Mission Valley Bank is primarily a commercial bank providing financial services to local small and midsized businesses. Specifically, the Bank focuses on three major areas of financing which are Commercial Real Estate, Commercial and Industrial (C&I), and Specialty Groups. The Bank's Specialty Group programs allow for more diversification in our revenue sources, which serves to grow revenue while maintaining strong retained earnings, which helps to augment capital.

#### A. Commercial Loans

The Bank offers conventional commercial loans to borrowers based on the soundness of the borrower's historical financial information and business model. Examples of conventional financing would include business lines of credit, business term loans, and commercial real estate financing, apartment financing, apartment seismic retrofit financing, truck financing, accounts receivable financing, credit cards and letters of credit.

The Commercial Real Estate Group focuses on maintaining a portfolio with a mix between owner occupied and investor properties, which is very diverse both by industry and type. The average loan size in this portfolio is approximately \$2.6 million.

The Bank's C&I portfolio reflects a mix of operating lines of credit, equipment loans and term loans for capital and other related business activity.

The Quick Qualifier is a 12-month line of credit with the main purpose of assisting low-income business owners apply for micro-loans. The maximum amount to be extended to any one business or business relationship under this product is \$100,000.

#### **B. Merchant Services**

Mission Valley Bank's Specialty Groups also includes a merchant acquisition program, providing payment processing and settlement for our clients' credit card receipts. Working with our Independent Sales Organization (ISO) Select Bankcard, Mission Valley Bank is able to provide competitive pricing and quality service to both local area small businesses as well as other small businesses more geographically dispersed.

#### C. Deposit Products

The Bank offers a full suite of traditional deposit products including checking accounts, savings accounts, money-market accounts, and certificates of deposits, all of which provide FDIC insurance protection up to the fullest amount allowable by law.

#### **D.** Business Solutions

In addition to traditional deposit products, the Bank offers a full suite of secure cash management products and services needed to meet the banking needs of its clients, including mobile and online banking, remote check deposits, ACH, wire transfers, telephone banking, and ATM/Debit Cards. Mission Valley Bank's Business Mobile gives the ability and flexibility to make decisions and approve transactions instantly from a smartphone. The suite includes a tool for fraud prevention that can help to detect and stop fraudulent transactions before they happen, protects against account takeover by safeguarding the approval process for ACH, wire transfers, and account transfers and guards against

check fraud using positive pay and approvals.

#### **E. Personal Solutions**

In addition to traditional deposit products, the Bank offers a full suite of secure online and mobile banking services for our personal banking clients. The mobile banking services allow our clients to deposit checks from anywhere, quickly make bill payments, check account balances on the go, make transfers and more. Other services include telephone banking, wire transfers, ACH Positive Pay and Personal and Business Debit Cards

#### F. Specialty Groups

#### 1. Accounts Receivable or Asset Based Lending Programs

The Bank offers two programs referred to as Formula Based Line, and BusinessManager® which allows the Bank to offer this type of financing to different borrowers depending on the degree of risk the borrower's activities pose.

#### 2. SBA Loans

SBA lending is another important sector of Mission Valley's lending operations. As a preferred SBA Lender since 2007, the Bank has built a strong reputation and expertise in SBA 7(a) and 504 lending. The Bank will entertain loans throughout the US, however 80% of the bank's loans are generated in California. The SBA group has formed referral relationships specifically to generate CRA loans and expand our SBA lending base. Many of these smaller CRA loans were provided to viable businesses lacking the necessary collateral, so the SBA loan guaranty of 75% to 85%, enables the bank to mitigate that risk and support small businesses in our community.

#### 3. Advance Restaurant Financing

Advance Restaurant Financing is another lending specialty product. The Bank has a third-party marketing agreement with Advance Restaurant Financing (ARF) in which ARF sources loans throughout the nation and performs analysis and underwriting to determine whether the loan meets their credit criteria, making it eligible to refer to Bank. All loans ARF refers to Bank are then analyzed and re-underwritten by Bank to determine whether Bank will approve and fund the loan. ARF is contractually required to purchase any loan they refer to Bank that goes delinquent thirty (30) days. These loans are offered to small businesses.

#### G. Lending and Deposit Product Focus

The Bank focuses its deposit generation business by soliciting commercial deposits from business clients within the markets surrounding the branches.

The Bank focuses its commercial lending primarily on its assessment area and Southern California area. Its specialty programs, SBA, Accounts Receivable and Advance Restaurant Financing are offered nationally.

## V. BUSINESS STRATEGIES AND TACTICS

With a relatively small footprint and supported by three branches, Mission Valley's business strategy is to be our clients' Trusted Advisor. This allows clients to have local access to decision makers, as well as ensure expedient support from a highly knowledgeable staff. The Bank chooses to differentiate itself from the competition based on customer service, relationships, and local community involvement. Mission Valley has deep roots in its communities with several of our staff having worked and lived within our assessment area for over thirty years.

Mission Valley Bank has done extensive networking within the communities where it operates. Because Mission Valley Bank is one of the local community banks still operating in Los Angeles; all major networking groups, chambers of commerce, associations, professional organizations, and government agencies are familiar with the quality and caliber of service Mission Valley Bank provides to the business community. As a result of an impeccable reputation with outstanding deliverables, there are numerous local businesses that reach out directly to Mission Valley Bank to request technical assistance and financing.

In 2022, the Bank added a Community Development Manager position and in 2023 a Community Development Coordinator. The Bank's Community Development Manager is very active in the community, and on behalf of Mission Valley Bank has been focusing her efforts on targeting the low-moderate income tracts within the Bank's assessment area, working with community groups and on providing financial literacy training program. We have detailed the extent of the Bank involvement in the community in Section XII of this plan.

Mission Valley Bank partners with fellow CDFI's, which allows the bank to assist low-income applicants that do not qualify for traditional lending. Mission Valley Bank works closely with local CDFI micro lenders and has identified the characteristics of each CDFI. Depending on the type of loan application, these applicants are referred to nonbank CDFI's which have more lenient requirements and make it easier for unsophisticated borrowers to qualify for small loan amounts. Thanks to this collaboration among the CDFI network, MVB became a significant contributor in the ecosystem.

Mission Valley Bank has done community assessments by working with grass roots agencies and technical assistance centers located within the bank's assessment area. As a result of constant presence in the community, it has been evident that minorities and low-income individuals do not prosper nor improve in their business in most cases due to cycles of poverty among these social groups and financial literacy. Families trapped in the cycle of poverty have few or no resources and have self-reinforcing disadvantages that make it impossible for individuals to break the cycle. Once it exists, it persists, unless there is outside intervention. Mission Valley Bank seeks to obtain grants in future years. This financial aid will be the vehicle to spark social mobility by injecting capital, which translates into education, health, and better standards of living.

Based upon the needs expressed by the community groups during our community development assessment and according to all Technical Assistance Centers (TAC) in Los Angeles, the number one need small business owners have is financial literacy. Issuing loans will not generate economic impact nor change the cycle of poverty since a big percentage of applicants do not have the tools nor the skills to make educated decisions. The economic impact will be generated once the borrowers gain knowledge and understanding of how to manage their business. Counseling is the first step of relationship building, which leads to mentorship. While it takes time to modify the behavior, it is essential to build the foundation of wealth starting with education.

Therefore, the Bank plans to focus most of its efforts in the Bank's Community Development area. To meet the Bank goals, the Bank will appoint the Community Development Manager, the CRA Committee and the Credit Team to focus on improving financially literacy, prudently expanding our community development product offerings and intensify the Bank's overall lending outreach to traditionally

underserved communities in a prudent manner.

Through this Plan, Mission Valley Bank is affirming its long-standing commitment to help meet the credit needs of its entire community. To further enhance the Bank's existing CRA record, the Bank plans to increase its focus on improving the skills and provide the tools needed for small entrepreneurs to learn to manage their business. To improve the Bank's Lending Test record, the Bank plans to pursue certain strategies that are intended to expand the Bank's lending in LMI census tracts and to LMI persons, improve its community development lending, expand its qualified investments, and enhance community development services.

These strategies may include:

- Continuing strengthening engagements and entering into partnerships with community-based organizations serving LMI neighborhoods in our communities to support achievement of the Bank's lending, investment, and service goals.
- Expanding its financial literacy programs to continue improving the technical knowledge of small business owners. Mission Valley Bank will continue promoting its financial literacy program in partnership with Enrich. The platform is free of charge to any user and it has been widely promoted with community based organizations, schools, chambers of commerce, and associations. Additionally, Community Development Manager offers training on monthly basis to low-income business owners. These classes are offered at technical assistance centers (TACs).
- Enhancing training to Relationship Managers and Business Development Officers related to CRA products, programs, and techniques to identify and deliver CRA loans to our communities.
- Working with local CDFI micro lenders to create referrals that will help small businesses qualify for small loan amounts.
- Focusing on working in identified LMI markets and LMI small businesses.
- Expanding existing and/or exploring new wholesale and correspondent relationships to purchase loans from entities specializing in Affordable Housing, Community Development, and small business lending.
- Reviewing product offerings and, in consultation with its community development partners, will seek to design products and programs that will enable the Bank to reach lower and more moderate-income (LMI) clients.

The Plan sets forth measurable lending goals for the Bank and for its Assessment Area ("AA") Pursuant to the Plan, the Bank will endeavor to increase or enhance:

- The number, amount, and variety of community development loans in its AAs.
- The proportion of small loans to businesses located in LMI census tracts and businesses with \$1 million on loss in group appual revenues
  - \$1 million or less in gross annual revenues.
- The number of qualified investments and grants that support community and economic development; and
- The amount and range of community development services provided annually through our branches and by executives and senior officers.

## VI. Competition

MVB assessment area is in the highly competitive and saturated business market of Los Angeles (LA). According to the FDIC's June 30, 2022, Deposit Market Share Report, there are 95 financial institutions,

and 1,571 branches within Los Angeles County. Total deposits within the market are \$602 billion. Mission Valley Bank has 0.07% of the total deposit market share. The top three institutions continue to be Bank of America, JP Morgan, and Wells Fargo. Combined, these three institutions own 46.8% of the deposit market share and operate 705 branches.

Looking at the Bank's Assessment Area only, competing institutions range from medium-sized community banks to larger national financial institutions. According to the June 30, 2022, FDIC Deposit Market Share Report based in the cities located in the bank's assessment area, thirty-three financial institutions operate 273 locations in the assessment area. The top three institutions are the same, JP Morgan, Bank of America, and Wells Fargo, with 144 branches and \$50MM in deposits, they account for 52.7 percent of the branches, and 66.8 percent of the deposit market share. Mission Valley Bank ranks 17<sup>th</sup> with a deposit market share of 0.56% within the AA. The opportunity to compete for small business loans is limited due to the competition with larger financial institutions. The Bank strives to meet its community development needs within its AA first before considering community development activities on a regional or statewide area. The regional area includes the Los Angeles County area.

## VII. STRATEGIC PLAN OVERVIEW

## A. Plan Effective Date

The proposed plan revision effective date is January 1, 2023, and will cover the calendar years 2023-2027. The term of the Plan will end on December 31, 2027. The Plan sets forth measurable goals in which the FDIC will be able to evaluate the Bank's performance as required by 12 C.F.R. §345.27(c)(1).

The Board of Directors Audit Committee and the CRA Committee continues to oversee the Bank's progress in meeting the Plan's objectives. The Bank agreed to request FDIC approval to modify or amend the Plan only if there was a material change in its underlying assumptions or in Mission Valley Bank's mission, objectives, or operations, and such changes would make the Plan no longer appropriate or viable. As noted in the Letter from the CEO, the assumptions that Mission Valley Bank made when the plan was established were not realistic, the economic challenges brought by the Pandemic and the focus on community development based on community needs, therefore, the Bank feels that the existing Plan is no longer appropriate or viable.

Mission Valley Bank is now requested the review and approval of this amended CRA strategic plan.

## B. Mission Valley Bank Assessment Area (AA)

Mission Valley Bank has designated one AA consisting of Santa Clarita Valley (Newhall) and San Fernando Valley. The Assessment Area is comprised of whole geographies (census tracts) within the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale Metropolitan Division #31084 (Los Angeles County). The delineation of Mission Valley Bank's assessment area is based on a variety of relevant factors, including the Bank's resources, the practical service area of the branches, the competitive structure of the market, the Bank's marketing strategy and the demographics and needs of the community surrounding the Bank's branches.

An analysis of census tract areas bordering the Bank's assessment area was made to ensure that no census tract was arbitrarily excluded due to income level. The census tracts were reassessed in 2020 and were released in 2022 by the Census Bureau, which subsequently changed the number of tracts in the Bank's assessment area. The list of census tracts included in the assessment area is contained in the Bank's CRA Public File.

As of August 16, 2023, Dunn & Bradstreet data reports 538,700 privately held businesses located within the bank's Assessment Area (this figure reflects all businesses, including home based). Service industries continue to represent the largest portion of businesses at 29.7%; followed by unclassified establishments at 24.5% and Finance/Insurance/Real Estate at 11.4%.

Mission Valley Bank had one designated assessment area (AA) that includes 2 political subdivisions called "Census County Divisions", consisting of Newhall, CA and San Fernando Valley, CA. The Bank's AA consists of 536 census tracts contained in the Newhall and San Fernando Valley "census county divisions" within Los Angeles County, California. Based upon the chart below, low- to moderate-income census tracts comprise approximately 26.2% of the Bank's AA. We believe that the AA is appropriately delineated, in compliance with CRA requirements, and consistent within the Bank's performance context.

	TABLE 1	
Census Tract Income Level	Census Tract Distribution #	Census Tract Distribution %
Low	19	3.6
Moderate	121	22.6
Middle	149	27.8
Upper	234	43.7
NA	13	2.4
TOTAL	536	100

#### 1. Assessment Area Population

Based on 2020 census figures, the population residing within the assessment area totals 2,111,090 persons, including 1,263,322 (59.8%) individuals classified as "minority". There also are 197,957 (9.4%) families living below the poverty level. The following table illustrates select demographics and housing information within the AA.

- Low income: 68,537 (3.2%)
- Moderate income: 474,153 (22.5%)
- Middle income: 600,270 (28.4%)
- Upper income: 952,491(45.1)
- NA income: 15,639 (0.7%)

Based on 2019 FFIEC demographic data, the breakout of population by race and ethnicity reveals that 1,263,326 persons or 59.8% of the total assessment area population are classified as minority. The following table shows the composition of the minority population:

TABLE 2		
Ethnicity	Number	Percentage
American Indian	3,312	0.3%
Asian/Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	241,571	19.1%
Black	78,046	6.2%
Hispanic	855,178	67.7%
Other Population/ Two or More Races	85,219	6.7%

The dominant subgroup in the minority population is the Hispanic subgroup which accounts for 855,178 (67.7%) of the minority population.

TABLE 3							
2023 Demograph	ics Informatio	Low				NA*	
Demographic Characteristics	#	% of #	Moderate % of #	Middle % of #	Upper % of #	% of #	
Geographies (Census Tracts)	536	3.5	27.8	22.6	2.4	43.7	
Population by Geography	2,111,090	3.3	28.4	22.5	0.7	45.1	
Housing Units by Geography	757,052	2.9	27.5	21.7	0.4	47.5	
Owner-Occupied Units by Geography	357,445	0.6	26.3	10.7	0.1	62.3	
Occupied Rental Units by Geography	360,367	5.2	28.5	32.8	0.8	32.7	
Vacant Units by Geography	39,240	2.1	27.7	21.2	0.4	48.6	
Family Distribution by Income Level	486,716	3.1	27.4	21.6	0.2	47.7	
Household Distribution by Income Level	717,812	2.9	27.4	21.8	0.5	47.4	
Minority Percentage by Geography	1,263,322	4.6	32.4	27.5	0.9	34.6	
Employed 16 and Older	1,065,304	3	29.1	22	0.4	45.5	
Median Family Income MSA-31084 Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale, CA	\$ 91,100						
Medium Housing Value in LA County	\$ 805,000						
Median Gross Rent in AA	\$ 1,831						
Families Below Poverty Level in AA	9.4%						

#### 2. Business Demographics

As of August 16, 2023, Dunn & Bradstreet data reports 538,700 privately held businesses located within the bank's Assessment Area (this figure reflects all businesses, including home based). The annual Sales Volume is reported as follows:

TABLE 4       2022 Dusiness by Annual Salas in Assessment Area					
2023 Business by Annual Sales in Assessment Area         Annual Sales       Percentage					
\$1 million or less	97.5%				
More than \$1 million	1.8%				
Unknown	0.7%				
Total	100%				

Service industries continue to represent the largest portion of businesses at 29.7%; followed by unclassified establishments at 24.5% and Finance/Insurance/Real Estate at 11.4%.

TABLE 5         2023 Assessment Area Industry Category by Percentage         (Data sourced from D&B Hoovers 8/16/2023)				
Industry	Percentage			
Service Industries	29.7%			
Unclassified Establishments	24.5%			
Finance / Insurance / Real Estate	11.4%			
Retail / Wholesale	8.6%			
Healthcare	7.2%			
Construction	5.8%			
Transportation / Warehousing	3.2%			
Arts & Entertainment	2.6%			
Misc. Industries Not Listed	7.0%			
Total	100%			

There are no legal constraints or non-standard limitations that affect the types of loans, investments, or services offered by the Bank. However, the internal business plan for the Bank, which was considered in the goals that are set forth under this Plan, does limit the types of businesses and property types that the Bank will lend to.

## VIII. Historical Performance – Small Business Loans

#### A. Lending inside and outside of the Bank's assessment area

The following table shows small business lending historical performance volume in and out of the Bank's AA from 2019 to 2023.

TABLE 6 SMALL BUSINESS LOANS IN/OUT OF AA										
Number of Loans Originated Dollar Originated (000's)										
Period	Insi	side AA Outside AA		side AA	Total	Inside AA		Outside AA		Total
	#	%	#	%	#	\$	%	\$	%	\$
2019	82	66.7%	41	33.33%	123	\$19,532	54.0%	\$16,620	45.97%	\$36,152
2020	247	82.3%	53	17.67%	300	\$36,180	72.6%	\$13,637	27.37%	\$49,817
2021	189	78.8%	51	21.25%	240	\$33,889	62.8%	\$20,059	37.18%	\$53,948
2022	48	44.0%	61	55.96%	109	\$17,468	39.7%	\$26,522	60.29%	\$43,990
2023	98	45.6%	117	54.42%	215	\$24,144	37.1%	\$40,902	62.88%	\$65,046

## B. Lending inside the AA as a percentage of average assets

	TABLE 7 5-Year Historical Lending to Average Assets Dollar Volume Originated (000's)							
Dowind	Average Total Loans in AA % of Average							
Period	Assets	#	\$	Assets				
2019	\$346,892	82	\$19,532	5.63%				
2020	\$440,332	247	\$36,180	8.22%				
2021	\$453,742	189	\$33,889	7.47%				
2022	\$529,741	48	\$17,468	3.30%				
2023	\$559,510	98	\$24,144	4.32%				
	5 Year Annual Aver	rage	\$26,243	5.79%				

## C. Geographic Distribution for Small Business Loans

	TABLE 8 5-Year Historical Performance Geographic Distribution of Small Business Loans in AA								
Period	Low	Mod	Low-Mod	Middle	Upper	Not Available	Total Loans	LMI As a % Loans in AA	
2019	1	12	13	26	43	0	82	15.9%	
2020	6	43	49	71	126	1	247	19.8%	
2021	5	34	39	47	102	1	189	20.6%	
2022	2	6	8	14	26	0	48	16.7%	
2023	2023 3 10			28	57	0	98	13.3%	
5-year an	nual ave LMI	rage in	24					17.3%	

## D. Small Business Lending to Businesses of Different Revenue Size

TABLE 9 5-Year Historical Performance Distribution of Small Business Loans by Gross Annual Revenue Category						
Period	Under 1MM	Over 1 MM	Rev NA	Total Loans in AA	Under \$1 Million as % of total loans in AA	
2019	38	42	2	82	46%	
2020	108	139	0	247	44%	
2021	82	103	4	189	43%	
2022	20	25	3	48	42%	
2023	63	32	3	98	64%	
5-year annual average	62				48%	

## IX. Measurable Goals - Amended

Mission Valley Bank CRA Strategic Plan was originally approved on February 11, 2021, with an effective date of January 1, 2021, to expire on December 31, 2025. Since the CRA Strategic Plan was approved, Mission Valley Bank has worked diligently toward meeting the goals established in the Plan. Our efforts have produced positive results; however, we have been unable to meet some of the goals initially set, which we feel were internally not set up realistically.

As a result, we determined that it was necessary to reevaluate our goals to determine attainable results. As part of this reevaluation process, we reviewed several approved CRA Strategic Plans and CRA Performance Evaluations to compare to our existing goals. We conducted interviews with community development groups to determine that community needs remain the same. We noted in our research that it was difficult to find a financial institution with similar characteristics and asset size when compared to Mission Valley Bank. Several of the plans we were able to gather were from financial institutions offering specialty consumer-related services such as credit cards, mortgage lending, student loans and auto loans. Some of the institutions that were close to our business model were significantly larger than Mission Valley Bank. Several of the strategic plans combined their lending levels and community development loans together, along with investments, in one community lending goal calculated on prior period average assets. These goals varied between less than .25% to 1.7% of average assets. Some of these banks did not have a goal established for the total number of loans to small businesses in the assessment area. Their goals were based on loans to small businesses with revenues of \$1MM and under, and a goal for loans in Low to Moderate income tracts, both in their assessment area. Some of the banks included in the review were:

TABLE 10						
Name of the Bank	Asset Size	Headquarters				
M&M Bank	\$324.8M	Illinois				
FinWise Bank	\$380.5M	Utah				
West Town Bank	\$336M	Illinois				
Bank of England	\$548M	Arkansas				
Prime Alliance Bank	\$571.8M	Utah				
First Bank of the Lake	\$648M	Missouri				
Lead Bank	\$819.1M	Kansas City				
Nelnet Bank	\$864M	Utah				
1st Financial Bank	\$940M	South Dakota				
Medallion	\$1.95B	Utah				
Silvergate	\$2.2 B	California				
Green Dot Bank	\$2.2B	Utah				
Regions Bank	\$2.8B	Utah				
Stifel Bank & Trust	\$14.2B	Missouri				
Western Alliance	\$26.9B	Arizona				
Ally	\$174.5B	Utah				
Silicon Valley Bank	\$212B	10 states + international				
Charles Schwab	\$385B	Texas				

Taking into consideration all of the factors and information gathered from the strategic plans and CRA performance evaluations of the various banks that were reviewed, and the Bank's historical

performance, we are requesting approval of the following amendments to the Bank's current Strategic Plan goals. The amendments affect the Small Business Lending goals. The Community Development goals will remain as originally approved.

## X. Amended Performance Goals- Small Business Lending within the AA

The Bank identified target goals in the following three areas that remain relevant:

- Small Business Lending
- Community Development Lending/Investments.
- Community Development Services.

We gathered historical data from 2019 to 2023 as noted in the tables within the following sections to support the amended goals.

#### A. Small Business Lending Concentration in the AA Amended Goal

The "Small Business Lending Goals for the Assessment Area concentration by Year" originally set at 8% as a percentage of Average Assets has been very challenging. It is worth noting that the 8% goal was chosen after doing a look back over several years where this goal had been achieved consistently. What was not considered is that over that period of time the Bank's total assets remained relatively flat. As a result, when the plan was established, we did not consider the impact that the increase in assets would have on the Bank's goals given the Bank's assessment area. In an effort to increase small business lending, we actively marketed using direct mailers and phone calls targeted to small businesses within its AA, including small businesses located in low- and moderate-income areas. Despite our efforts, and with the economic challenges brought on by the Pandemic, the Bank did not produce anything close to the 8% of average assets goal and it was evident that the set goal originally established was not a realistic goal.

In re-evaluating the new small business loan concentration goal, on Table Eleven we looked at the historical performance for the past 5-years, which included the SBA Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans, that were based on the program granted by the Government during 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID Pandemic effects. Since the PPP loans skewed the numbers for these two years, we also provided an analysis on Table Twelve that excluded these loans from the general population from 2020 and 2021 to show the effect this program had in the volume of loans for these two years.

	TABLE 11								
	All Loans Including PPP Loans								
Period	Avg. Total Assets	Loan	ns in AA	% of Avg					
Feriou	Avg. Iotal Assets	#	\$	Assets					
2019	\$346,892	82	\$19,532	5.63%					
2020	\$440,332	247	\$36,180	8.22%					
2021	\$453,742	189	\$33,889	7.47%					
2022	\$529,744	48	\$17,468	3.30%					
2023	\$559,510	98	\$24,144	4.32%					
	5-year average	133	\$26,243	5.79%					

	TABLE 12								
	Small Business Loans Excluding PPP Loans								
Period	Avg. Total Assets	otal Assets Loans in AA		% of Avg					
renou	\$(000s)	#	\$ (000s)	Assets					
2019	\$346,892	82	\$19,532	5.63%					
2020	\$440,332	43	\$11,216	2.55%					
2021	\$453,742	60	\$19,068	4.20%					
2022	\$529,744	48	\$17,468	3.30%					
2023	\$559,510	98	\$24,144	4.32%					
	5-year average	66	\$18,286	4.00%					

In 2023 the overall number of loans increased due to the following: the Bank established an affiliate company to handle underwriting and servicing of SBA loans. Due to this addition six SBA Business Development Officers were hired. In addition, a new Manager was hired to manage and expand the Accounts Receivable Lending product. However, the products are offered nationwide, therefore, the

In 2023 the overall number of loans increased due to the following: the Bank established an affiliate company to handle underwriting and servicing of SBA loans. Due to this addition six SBA Business Development Officers were hired. In addition, a new Manager was hired to manage and expand the Accounts Receivable Lending product. SBA and Accounts Receivable are offered nationwide and therefore created an increase in loans outside of the assessment area or loans over \$1 million. Consequently, the Bank contracted with Bankers Health Group to purchase small business loans to be able to meet current Bank goals for CRA purposes. However, these loans tend to be expensive for the Bank and not a good long-term solution. Therefore, we feel that utilizing the 66 average loans per year (excluding PPP loans) times a 15% increase over the period, the result of 76 loans would be a more attainable annual goal. For a three-year review period, we would expect to make about 228 loans over that time period, with an overall 5-year plan goal of at least 380 loans over this period. Taking into consideration the Bank's five-year past average dollar volume of \$18.3 million, we would expect to generate about \$105 million over this time period.

**Amended New Goal** – Small business lending to be measured by either the number of small business loans or total dollar amount of small business loans made in the assessment area based on historical performance as follows:

TABLE 13							
Small Business Lending Goal							
5 Year Plan Goals Satisfactory Outstanding							
Total Number of Loans for the first 3 Years	200 -300	>300					
For the 5 Year Plan Goal	360 - 460	> 460					
Total Dollar Volume for the First 3 Years	\$55-\$80 million	>\$80 million					
For the 5 Year Plan Goal	\$90-125 million	>\$125 million					

The Bank could meet either the number of loans or the dollar volume to meet its goal for the 3-year review period and the overall 5-year plan goal. Goals to be measured as a cumulative total for the three and five years.

#### **B. Small Business Sub-Lending Amended Performance Goals**

To ensure that we are reaching out to all small businesses within our assessment area, we are establishing the following sub-lending goals outlined within Tables Fourteen and Seventeen which will apply to our Small Business Lending Loans generated within our Assessment Area.

#### 1. Geographical Distribution of Small Business Lending Inside the AA

This is another goal that the Bank has continuously struggled with due to the large competition in the assessment area with large financial institutions. The 5-year historical performance on Table Fourteen – All Loans and Table Fifteen – Excluding PPP loans show that out of the small business loans made in the AA, there were an average of 24 loans and 11 loans respectively made to small businesses in low to moderate income census tracts. We opted to use the 11 loans as the base for this goal, since this is a more realistic number for the Bank. We are committing to making at least 35 loans or 15% of total loans made in the AA of our small business loans to businesses located in low to moderate income census tracts. Market penetration rate is about 21% for small business loans based on 2022 data.

TABLE 14 Small Business Lending Goal For Low to Moderate Income Census Tracts by Year						
3 Year <b>Plan</b> Goals <b>Satisfactory Outstanding</b>						
Number of Small Business Loans in the AA made for the 3-Year review period	35-40	>45				
For the 5-year Plan	60-75	>75				
% by Number Volume of Small Business Loans in AA – Satisfactory Rating	15% to 20%	>20%				

Subgoals for loans made in Low-Moderate income tracts are shown on Table Fourteen below:

The Bank could meet either the number of loans or the percentage of total loans in the AA to meet its goal for the 3-year review period and the 5-year plan goal.

TABLE 15 5 Year Historical Performance -ALL LOANS Geographic Distribution in AA									
Period	PeriodLowModLow-ModMiddleUpperAvailableLoansLoans in AA								
2019	1	12	13	26	43	0	82	15.9%	
2020	6	43	49	71	126	1	247	19.8%	
2021	5	34	39	47	102	1	189	20.6%	
2022	2	6	8	14	26	0	48	16.7%	
2023	3	10	13	28	57	0	98	13.3%	
5-year a	5-year average in LMI 24							17.3%	

TABLE 16 5 Year Historical Performance without PPP loans 2020-2021 Geographic Distribution in AA								
Period	PeriodLowModLow-ModMiddleUpperNotTotalLMI As a %LoansLoans in AA							
2019	1	12	13	26	43	0	82	15.9%
2020	2	5	7	11	25	0	43	16.3%
2021	2	10	12	17	31	1	60	20.0%
2022	2	6	8	14	26	0	48	16.7%
2023	3	10	13	28	57	0	98	13.3%
5-year a	5-year average in LMI 11							16.4%

#### 2. Small Business Lending to Businesses of Different Revenue Sizes

In addition, over the past few years Mission Valley Bank has made a concerted effort to improve its performance in lending to small businesses with annual revenues equal to or below \$1 million within our Assessment Area. Based on 5-year historical performance the Bank has averaged between 43% and 48% and 31 and 62 loans without and with PPP loans respectively. We intend to continue to commit to at least 40% loan penetration of the total number of our small business loans within the AA to businesses with annual revenues of \$1 million or under to maintain our focus on better serving those members of our community. Recognizing that a loan to a business with revenue below \$1million may also be located in a low- or moderate-income census tract, in either case it will count in both categories.

TABLE 17						
Small Business Lending Goal For Lending Borrowers' Profile Performance of \$1 Million and Under						
3 Year Plan Goals	Outstanding					
Number of Small Business Loans with GAR <= \$1MM in the AA for the three-year period,	93-100	>100				
% by Number Volume of Small Business Loans with GAR <= \$1MM in AA for the three-year period.	45% to 55%	>55%				

The Bank could meet either the number or the percentage of total small business loans with GAR <= \$1MM in the AA to meet its goal for the 3-year period to be covered by examination.

TABLE 17						
Small Business Lending Goal For Lending Borrowers' Profile Performance of \$1 Million and Under						
5 Year Plan Goals Satisfactory Outstand						
Number of Small Business Loans with GAR <= \$1MM in the AA per year for the 5-year period,	35-70	>70				
% by Number Volume of Small Business Loans with GAR <= \$1MM in AA <b>per year</b> for the 5-year period.	45% to 55%	>55%				

TABLE 18 5-Year Historical Performance – All Loans Small Business Lending Goals for Lending Borrower Profile Performance (<=\$1Million)							
UnderTotal LoansUnder \$1 Million as %Period\$1MMOver \$1 MMRev NAin AAtotal loans in AA							
2019	38	42	2	82	46%		
2020	108	139	0	247	44%		
2021	82	103	4	189	43%		
2022	20	25	3	48	42%		
2023	63	32	3	98	64%		
5-year average	62				48%		

TABLE 19         5-Year Historical Performance – Without PPP Loans         Borrower's Profile of \$1 Million and Under							
UnderTotal LoansUnder \$1 Million as 9Period\$1MMOver \$1 MMRev NAin AAtotal loans in AA							
2019	38	42	2	82	46%		
2020	13	30	0	43	30%		
2021	20	36	4	60	33%		
2022	20	25	3	48	42%		
2023	63	32	3	98	64%		
5-year average	31				43%		

The Bank would like to have the option to elect to be examined under the CRA Intermediate Bank examination procedures if the Bank fails to meet substantially the plan goals for a satisfactory rating.

## XI. Performance Goals – Community Development

The Bank's CRA Strategic Plan goals will remain as originally approved, however some of its focus will change as noted below based on reevaluation of the community needs in its assessment area. The goals are established to make an appropriate and meaningful contribution to meeting the needs of the families and communities within the AA. Because of the Bank's deposit gathering and loan origination strategies, the Bank has chosen to focus its efforts on community development lending, investments, and services.

Mission Vally Bank's goals are weighted higher in the community development area. This is based upon the needs expressed by the community groups during our community development assessment Technical Assistance Centers (TAC) in Los Angeles, indicated that the number one need for small business owners is financial literacy. Issuing loans will not generate economic impact nor change the cycle of poverty since a big percentage of applicants do not have the tools nor the skills to make educated decisions. The economic impact will be generated once the borrowers gain knowledge and understanding on how to manage their business. MVB has concentrated its efforts in teaching workshops, conducting public presentations, serving as panelists, serving as judge and moderator on a monthly basis at community group events. At these events the relevance of becoming proficient at business and finance management is stressed. During these presentations Mission Valley Bank's Community Development Manager provides in person sessions and by doing so, she has gained the trust of the audience, which allows her to counsel the business owners. Counseling is the first step of relationship building, which leads to mentorship. While it takes time to modify the behavior, it is essential to build the foundation of wealth starting with education.

Community development lending and qualified investments, including grants to nonprofit organizations and community service hours. The Bank's measurable goals are set at a level that should be sustainable, depending on the relevant economic conditions at that time.

#### A. Community Development Loans and Investments Goals

Management has established Community Development Lending and Investment goals as a percentage of Average Assets at 5% - Table Twenty. Using cumulative qualified funds as a percentage of total average assets metric ensures actual funds committed to Community Development Lending and Investment goals will increase as the Bank grows. It is the Bank's intent to meet the cumulative goals stated below in each individual year of the Plan's term. The calculation for each year will include new community development loans and investments made within the plan year, plus prior-period investments still on the Bank's books at year-end.

TABLE 20								
Community Development Lending and Investments as a % of Average Assets								
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027			
CD Lending/Investments as a % of Average Assets – Satisfactory	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%			
CD Lending/Investments as a % of Average Assets – Outstanding	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%			

#### **Peer Bank Goals**

As noted under section IX Measurable Goals, the Bank was not able to locate financial institutions within the Bank's market area with a strategic plan, therefore the Bank looked for financial institutions with similar business models outside of the Bank's assessment area. The banks previously used for Peer Bank comparison were either acquired or closed. Although our community goals did not change and remain as originally targeted, we use First Bank of the Lake for comparison purpose.

TABLE 21						
First Bank of the Lake	2021	2022	2023			
CD Loans/Investments as a % of Average Assets – Satisfactory	.50%	.50%	.60%			
CD Loans/Investments as a % of Average Assets – Outstanding	.75%	.75%	.85%			

## B. Qualified Community Development Grants - Goals and Standards

Through its retail and lending network, the Bank seeks to provide various community development services to LMI people and geographies and small businesses. Further, in developing the Plan and subsequent goals for meeting the Bank's community development activity targets, specific attention is applied to the Bank's AA and objectives established accordingly.

Grants and charitable contributions made by the Bank that meet the primary purpose of community development will be considered qualified for CRA credit if they meet the needs of the Bank's AA, including grants and charitable contributions specifically focused on the Bank's primary AA as well as grants and charitable contributions that benefit a broader region that includes the Bank's primary AA.

The Bank intends to meet its investment goals through a combination of grants and donations as it sees appropriate in a given year according to the current financial position of the Bank. Based on research completed to develop this Strategic Plan, the following goals have been deemed appropriate for the Bank. The investment and service goals are set in table twenty two below.

Table 22						
Community Development Investment and Service Goals						
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	
New Grants – Satisfactory	\$38,000	\$46,000	\$54,000	\$65,000	\$78,000	
New Grants – Outstanding	\$43,000	\$51,000	\$59,000	\$71,000	\$85,000	

#### Peer Bank Goals

The goals for First Bank of the Lake are detailed below.

TABLE 23					
First Bank of the Lake	10/2021 to 12/2022	2023			
New Grants – Satisfactory	\$20,000	\$25,000			
New Grants – Outstanding	\$30,000	\$35,000			

The Bank intends to meet its community investment goals by utilizing the channels discussed below. It is important to note that the Bank will not limit itself to the specific channels described below, nor will be committed to utilizing all of these avenues.

The Bank will explore opportunities to give grants to local organizations that support our CRA goals of; 1) affordable housing, 2) community services for low-income families, 3) Preventing Elder Abuse in Senior Housing, 4) Financial Literacy in the classroom, 5) services for disabled children and young adults and 6) Economic Development and Revitalization/Stabilization. Organizations must target or predominantly serve low- or moderate-income individuals. These could include but are not limited to organizations such as shelters/soup kitchens; programs for financial education, literacy, or other educational ends; holiday or beginning-of- school drives for children and support for economic revitalization of depressed and underserved areas within the Bank's AA.

Mission Valley Bank management has met with several local groups to discuss specific opportunities for grants, including but not limited to:

#### Banzai On-line Financial Literacy Curriculum https://www.teachbanzai.com/

Banzai delivers its award-winning online curriculum directly to the classrooms of over 50,000 teachers nationwide to teach their students to be better stewards of their money. Banzai partners with local sponsors to provide this high-quality program for teachers and students, at no cost. Local Banks and Credit Unions generously pay for the materials for teachers to use in their classroom. They offer time, money, industry experience, classroom presentations, and a variety of additional resources to help educate a financially responsible generation. Working through Banzai, Mission Valley can provide a

needed financial education to students in the Bank's AA. Mission Valley Bank has sponsored low-income schools in the Bank's AA.

## Hope the Mission formerly known as Hope of the Valley Rescue Mission https://hopethemission.org/

Hope of the Valley Rescue Mission started in 2009 as a small ministry in Sun Valley where volunteers cooked and served hot meals to homeless men, woman and children. Over the years the organization has significantly grown and now they spread out over 15 facilities, which include 812 family and youth beds, 1536 interim housing beds and 14 recovery beds. They provide a range of services, from shelter and housing to emotional support, mental health services, and financial assistance. Their approach involves preventing homelessness, helping in times of crisis, and finding long-term solutions. They aim to empower individuals to rebuild their lives and thrive. The organization is governed by a skilled and experienced local board of directors comprised of men and women who have a tremendous passion to meet the needs of the hurting in the greater Los Angeles area.

The Bank provides grant support for their job readiness and financial literacy programs.

#### The Valley Economic Alliance (TVEA) <a href="https://www.thevalley.net">https://www.thevalley.net</a>

The Valley Economic Alliance began on 1/17/1994 and is a non-profit strategic private-public collaborative made up of businesses, government, education, and community organizations whose mission is engage and unite Valley stakeholders to raise standards of living and economic vitality across the five-city region – Burbank, Calabasas, Glendale, Los Angeles and San Fernando consisting of more than 70,000 businesses and over 2.1 million residents covering more than 350 square miles. The alliance provides clients with referrals to Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) and financial institutions. The majority of their referrals come from low -to- moderate income areas and are ethnically diverse, including women owned businesses.

TVEA has a four-pronged mission for the Valley:

- Economic Development & Retention: Expand, retain, and attract businesses and jobs in the fivecity San Fernando Valley region.
- Education and Workforce Development: Convene Valley workforce and education leaders to help prepare, place and re-train employees that exceed the needs of Valley businesses.
- Livable & Sustainable Communities: Provide leadership for the creation of economically viable and sustainable communities, resulting in an improved quality of life forall residents.
- Marketing the Valley: Promote the Valley Economic Alliance as the region's economic development organization; to market the five-city San Fernando Valley as a prime location for businesses to grow and thrive, and an ideal place to live, work, learn, play, and visit.

The Bank continues to provide grant supporting varies projects related to the overall economic wellbeing of the Valley areas served – with special focus on economic and small business growth throughout the communities served.

#### **Business Assistance/Layoff Aversion Program**

TVEA joined forces with the LA Workforce Investment Board and the LA Economic Development Corporation to provide businesses confidential and complimentary consultations, connect and refer them to helpful resources and services through our business assistance and layoff aversion programs. This work is performed via contracts with the County and City of LA, saving thousands of jobs per year. This service has become more invaluable as technological changes have impacted businesses' ability to grow and prosper in the 21st century economy, as well as find skilled labor to perform the new tasks and jobs. TVEA helps with: business plan development, financing by way of introductions to its banking partners, marketing plan development, site selection, permits, cost containment (lower utility and energy bills), layoff and downsizing, workforce training and development, ADA compliance, tax credits and incentives including employer hiring tax credits, and hiring needs, skills gaps and training opportunities as well as attracting new customers through special events, expos, career and job fairs and seminars. This program has been successful with 9000 outreach calls impacting 5500 jobs and 600 in person consultations to financially stressed businesses.

#### **Business Accelerator Program**

In partnership with C-Level Roundtable, TVEA provides a shared space for entrepreneurs and business owners to propel their growth by creating an incubator like environment where they can collaborate, build meaningful relationships and prospects for accelerated growth. Participants leave with a business plan and an action plan, along with the confidence to execute their plan. There are synergies between TVEAs program in that a graduate of the Accelerator Program may advance to the Women's Collaborative Mentoring Program for ongoing coaching/mentoring and skill development. A recent graduate of the program went from being homeless to ultimately running a social media/marketing business generating over \$10,000 in monthly revenue with a national sports brand as a client.

#### Carousel Ranch <u>www.carouselranch.org</u>

Carousel Ranch is a 10+ acre ranch dedicated to improving the lives of children and young adults with special needs. Through both our equestrian therapy and vocational training programs, we strive to create an atmosphere where every student can and will succeed...a place where therapy is disguised as fun. Two programs are run at the ranch, Equestrian Therapy and Ready to Work.

#### Equestrian Therapy

At Carousel Ranch, equestrian therapy takes students into a new, unexplored world, and provides a sense of independence and freedom that defies their disability. Exercises performed on the back of the horse challenge our riders in ways that they have seldom been challenged before. Any child with any disability is eligible for the program. From the most severely disabled to those with learning disabilities, an individualized program will be developed to suit each child's needs and goals. Fees are based on ability to pay and they strive to offer scholarship assistance for those in need. The goals and benefits are different for every child, depending on their individual needs. The movement of the horse causes an inherent response from the child, relaxing muscles that are tight, increasing tone in muscles that are weak, building balance, coordination, and control, increase motor skills, improvements in behavior and sensory processing.

#### Ready to Work!

At age 22, young adults with disabilities "age out" of the educational system. This can be a disorienting and dis-empowering event that alters their routine, isolates them from friends and mentors, and leaves them without a daily purpose and place to be. Though finding and securing employment can often be very difficult, Carousel Ranch hopes for that for our students. The "Ready to Work!" concept will help to change that scenario, showing that each has the capacity to be contributing members of society. Ready to Work! has two components:

• A classroom-based curriculum teaching "soft skills" needed to be successful in the workplace. From simply clocking in and wearing a uniform, how to work as a team, having appropriate behavior, being flexible, having a positive attitude, etc. Students complete a resume, learn, and practice interview skills and come out far "readier to work". • Classroom curriculum is then brought to life through actual work in the "Tack Shack/Snack Shack" social enterprise, run by the students, as well as various jobs around the ranch. By the time that our students leave here, they have done a variety of work – from horse and ranch care to vehicle washing, construction to office work, retail, food service, cashiering and so much more.

The program began with a pilot in June 2016 and to date, 28 students have participated. Mission Valley Bank is proud to partner with Carousel Ranch to provide these vital community services.

#### New Economics For Women - Women's Business Center (NEW-WBC) https://www.new-wbc.org/

For over 34 years, New Economics for Women (NEW) had been driven by a mission to build economic mobility for women, especially Latinas and their families, through wealth creation, housing, education, entrepreneurship, and civic engagement. This includes creating permanent solutions to poverty, more housing opportunities and knowledge platforms that generate economic mobility, stabilize households and powerfully demonstrate the promise and economic influence of women and their families.

NEW was originated to provide business owners with coaching/mentoring and ongoing training to learn how to use the information they receive and put it into practice for business success. NEW performs a qualified assessment of the business to customize a business mentoring program for the participant and assemble the expertise needed for each specific business. Therefore, NEW is more focused on outcomes rather than the number of people/businesses touched.

The Bank assists with mentoring and coaching for financially stressed businesses and provides lending resources. If the Bank is unable to provide financing for one of the referrals, it will assist the business by seeking other lenders such as the Small Business Development Corporations (SBDC) to assist if possible. In addition, many times the Bank can help the business owner take steps to become bankable over a period of time.

#### MEND <u>https://mendpoverty.org/</u>

MEND (Meet each need with dignity) mission is to break bonds of poverty by providing basic human needs while giving individuals the education and training that fosters self-reliance. All recipients of MEND services must have household incomes at or below the federal poverty guidelines (state guidelines for food). Also, clients must live in the MEND service area, which include Pacoima, Arleta, Sylmar, Lake View Terrace, San Fernando, North Hills, and Mission Hills. MEND also serves clients living in Sun Valley and Panorama City who meet the income guidelines for food and clothing assistance only. MEND focuses on aiding families to achieve financial self-sustainability via a number of educational programs and work training centers.

The Bank supports job assistance programs through donations. Mission Valley Bank is a Board member and is involved with board and event committee meetings throughout the year.

#### Hollywood Housing <a href="https://hollywoodhousing.org/">https://hollywoodhousing.org/</a>

For more than 25 years, Hollywood Community Housing Corporation has been improving the quality of life in underserved communities in Los Angeles. We have built and continue to maintain 807 units of affordable housing for low-income families, the homeless, the disabled and seniors, and we offer numerous supportive services to our residents and their neighbors. HCHC turns blighted properties into award-winning multifamily housing that improves neighborhoods.

The Bank provides fund raising support for low-income events.

#### C. Community Development Services Performance Goals

CRA service is a corporate priority. Managers and employees will be encouraged to provide a service in their local communities. Bank employees are encouraged to be involved in their local communities through participation with community development non-profit organizations and other economic development entities that serve broader statewide or regional areas that include the Bank's assessment areas. Managers will ensure their staff is aware of the Bank's commitment to community involvement and the Bank's CRA Officer will monitor service hours and their documentation. The services provided must be reported to the CRA Officer through appropriate documentation.

The Bank instituted a tracking mechanism that measures the number of community development activities by employees, the nature of those activities (e.g. board memberships versus one-time project) and the number of hours devoted to each. Community development activities will be tracked on a quarterly basis and reported to the CRA Committee and Board's Audit Committee.

Mission Valley Bank has structured its service goal based upon two (2) hours of service per full-time employee (FTE) per year within our current AA. The Bank will support the volunteer services of its employees and members of the Board of Directors to various community- based groups that are involved in economic development or other community revitalization efforts. Community Development Services will be focused inside the Bank's AA. We understand that to qualify for the goals outlined below the service must:

- Be completed as a representative of the Bank
- Have Community Development as its primary purpose
- Be related to the provision of Financial Services or the expertise of the volunteer.

Organizations that Mission Valley Bank is considering as primary conduits for community service for economic development and other community revitalization efforts include, but are not limited to, the entities below:

- The Valley Economic Alliance (TVEA) <u>https://www.thevalley.net</u> See Section XI-B above for further details regarding this entity.
- Carousel Ranch <u>www.carouselranch.org</u> See Section XI-B above for further details regarding this entity.
- MEND <u>https://mendpoverty.org/</u> See Section XI-B above for further details regarding this entity.
- New Economic For Women (NEW) <u>https://www.new-wbc.org/</u> See Section XI-B above for further details regarding this entity.
- ICON L.A. (ICON CDC) <a href="https://iconcdc.org/">https://iconcdc.org/</a>
  is a 501(c)(3) community-based, California not-for-profit organization located within the City of LA which provides free services to primarily low- and moderate-income entrepreneurs and small-business owners to promote economic development, job creation, and financial literacy with a focus on job creation and job retention via access to capital.
- CDFI- TMC Community Capital <u>https://tmccommunitycapital.org/</u>
   TMC Community Capital's is a nonprofit micro-lender. Its mission is to empower and support low-moderate income business owners that have a harder time finding the financing they need.

#### Mission Valley Bank Community Development Goals

The goals for service and volunteerism for directors, officers, and employees of the Bank will remain

the same as originally approved and are as follows:

TABLE 24 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICE GOALS								
	2023	2024	2025	2025	2027			
Hours of Service per FTE – Satisfactory	4.0 per							
	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE			
Hours of Service per FTE – Outstanding	5.0 per							
	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE			

Based on current number of full time employees, the Bank' goals would be approximately between 276 hours and 345 hours.

#### Peer Bank Goals

In order to measure the reasonableness of these goals, the Bank examined the following bank for peer comparison when the plan was originally approved; First Bank of the Lake. The goals established are detailed below.

TABLE 25					
First Bank of the Lake	10/2021 to 12/2022	2023			
Hours of Service – Satisfactory	60	90			
Hours of Service – Outstanding	90	100			

## XII. COMMUNITY COMMITMENT & SOCIAL IMPACT

At Mission Valley Bank we believe that to truly serve a community, you must be an active and contributing member. This belief has made our community commitment an integral part of our philosophy. Our community roots run deep. Our team is motivated by a strong desire to be an integral part of the communities we serve. Our bankers benefit personally and professionally from civic involvement by developing lasting relationships and a better understanding of the needs of the areas where we live, work, and play.

Our contributions locally are many. Members of our management team serve on a number of boards and foundations, sharing their time and expertise. Mission Valley Bank is proud of our team members who dedicate many hours to worthwhile programs throughout the year, helping local business groups, nonprofits, youth, family, and civic organizations. Additionally, since Mission Valley Bank was founded in 2001, we have made financial education a primary focus, hosting no-cost seminars for our clients and local area businesses.

**GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE** - In 2015, Mission Valley Bank founded our Give Where You Live program and is proud to feature nonprofit organizations within our community. We encourage others to join us to "give where you live" to help support those worthwhile causes. Mission Valley Bank's local roots run deep, motivated by the desire to be an integral part of the community we serve. A strong community thrives on personal relationships and Mission Valley Bank supports – and is honored to be supported by the communities we serve.

The Bank continues its focus on building a strong foundation in support of our Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) activities, particularly in lending, demonstrating the Bank's long-term

commitment to its community and development activities. The bank continues to focus on two key initiatives: building our team of future leaders and Trusted Advisors and deploying appropriate technology to improve efficiency, reduce costs, expand delivery channels, and remain competitive as client needs and demographics continually change.

#### A. Community Development Lending

Mission Valley Bank provides access to capital to LMI applicants and nonprofit organizations. The loan portfolio includes commercial loans such as real estate, term loans, and lines of credit. Mission Valley Bank financially supports nonprofit organizations that advocate low-income individuals in the bank's investment area. These nonprofits are key players since they foster civic engagement and leadership, drive economic growth, and strengthen the fabric of our communities.

Some of the nonprofit organizations that Mission Valley Bank has supported in the past are charter schools, in which 97% of the student population are LMI. These Charter Schools have created a significant impact in our community by empowering inner-city children and teens to break the cycle of poverty, crime, and lack of education.

#### **B.** Mission Valley Bank Partnerships

#### 1. Community Development Financial Institution "CDFI"

In support of this community commitment, Mission Valley Bank is proud to be recognized as a long-time participant in the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (CDFI). The fund was established to facilitate increasing economic opportunities and community development investments for underserved populations and distressed communities throughout the United States. The Bank's participation in the CDFI Fund has enabled Mission Valley Bank to reach far beyond the local communities it serves.

Mission Valley Bank has built a strong alliance with fellow CDFI micro-lenders in California. Mission Valley Bank serves as a Trusted Advisor to technical assistance centers where entrepreneurs are guided through the loan process. Mission Valley Bank has referred more than 50 low-income business owners to the CDFI network. Thanks to these referrals, business owners have received capital to start or expand their business, hire low-income individuals, break the cycle of poverty, and positively impact the ecosystem.

Because of this symbiotic relationship, Mission Valley Bank serves on the board of TMC Community Capital and has brought to Mission Valley Bank valuable partnerships such as the State loan guarantee program. <u>https://www.ibank.ca.gov/small-business/loan-guarantees/</u>

#### 2. Partnering with technical assistance centers:

Mission Valley Bank does presentations to LMI targeted communities. These presentations are hosted by New Economics for Women: Women's Business Center, ICON CDC – L.A. Business Source, Southern California Virtual Business Center, the U.S. Small Business Administration, and Small Business Development Center. These agencies are geographically located within Mission Valley Bank's assessment area, and these agencies have physical offices to host events and classes live and virtually on a weekly basis. Topics include:

- 1. Access to Capital
- 2. What Lenders are looking for
- 3. Understanding Financial Statements
- 4. Business Planning

Additionally, these technical assistance centers have a customer base that use the Bank's Community Development Manager for consulting one-to-one. Based on each session dedicated to LMI entrepreneurs, the Community Development Manager uncovers their financial needs and refers them to the lender that best suits their needs within the CDFI network.

#### **3.** Financial Literacy Programs

Mission Valley Bank sponsors financial literacy programs to be taught at local schools to lowincome students within the bank's assessment area. Financial literacy empowers communities, food security, a stronger educated work force, which translates into a lower crime and foreclosure rate.

Financial Literacy Programs teach proven principles through real life scenarios, in an interactive virtual environment. Students can work at their own learning pace. Representatives from Mission Valley Bank made themselves available to provide in-class support to students working through the program.

#### ENRICH FINANCIAL LITERACY PROGRAM

The ENRICH program's mission is to enhance financial literacy across various communities. Since its inception, ENRICH has expanded its reach, offering a comprehensive range of workshops, online courses, and interactive tools designed to educate individuals on effective money management, investment strategies, and credit utilization. The program's tailored approach adapts to the needs of its diverse audience, ensuring that everyone from high school students to seasoned entrepreneurs gains valuable insights and practical skills to navigate the financial landscape effectively.

Mission Valley Bank has dedicated \$30,000 over the next three years to support the initiatives of ENRICH. The funding for this three-year program was provided through a California grant the Bank received in 2024. The Bank's investment underscores its commitment to ensure that both individuals and businesses in our community have the knowledge and tools they need to succeed.

To provide awareness of the program, the Bank's Marketing department is promoting the ENRICH program through emails to clients, throughout the Bank's social media platforms and though the Relationship Managers and Business Development Officers sharing the information with their clients about the benefits of the program.

#### 4. Women-Owned Businesses in Los Angeles:

From the lack of access to funding, to battling social stereotypes, women entrepreneurs are at a significant disadvantage. Such inequities have led to a significant gap between female- and maleowned firms. Example, roughly 21% of firms in the City of Los Angeles that have employees are women-owned. Most women-owned businesses have no employees and only six percent of women-owned firms nationwide generate revenue of more than \$250,000, making it difficult for many women-owned businesses to grow and thrive. Mission Valley Bank proactively works with technical assistance centers located within the bank's assessment area. Among these centers, there are over **33,000** low-income business owners seeking access to capital.

<u>NEW-WBC: New Economics for Women – Women's Business Center</u>

#### https://neweconomicsforwomen.org/

Serves an average of 5,000 aspiring and existing business owners per year. Approximately 95% are low-income individuals, 75% women and 100% minorities. Conducts 30 events per year with approximately 150 loans per year = \$8,000,000.

Mission Valley Bank serves as advisory board member. The Community Development Manager teaches two workshops per month, serves as panelist on their business forums monthly, and collaborates with mentoring and couching entrepreneurs daily

#### 5. Community Development and Reinvestment (CDR) Ambassador Program

Mission Valley Bank is committed to fostering inclusive financial services and strengthening our community ties, particularly within the Black and Latino segments. Recognizing the importance of CRA, Mission Valley Bank proposed the initiation of the Bank's CDR Ambassador Program. This innovative program plans to deepen the Bank's engagement and support for these vital communities, while also enhancing the Bank's compliance with the CDR Ambassador Program objectives.

The CDR Ambassador Program appointed Ambassadors from the Black and Latino communities, along with one board member, to serve as liaisons between Mission Valley Bank and these communities. This initiative is designed to not only ensure our services are accessible and relevant to these groups but also to solidify our position as a CDFI, committed to equitable financial inclusion.

Program Objectives:

- Establish a positive, visible presence for Mission Valley Bank within Black and Latino communities.
- Enhance understanding and accessibility of financial services tailored to these communities.
- Strengthen Mission Valley Bank's compliance with CRA objectives by actively supporting economic
- development in underserved areas.
- Lay the groundwork for Mission Valley Bank's recognition and operation as a CDFI within these communities.

Program Benefits:

- Establishes a positive presence and fosters trust within Black and Latino communities.
- Positions Mission Valley Bank as a leader in community development and financial inclusion.
- Enhances the bank's brand awareness and reputation within these communities and beyond.
- Contributes to the economic vitality of underserved areas, aligning with CRA objectives and bolstering the bank's CDFI status.

The CDR Ambassador Program will not only affirm Mission Valley Bank's commitment to serving the needs of Black and Latino communities but also enhance its overall mission as a communityfocused financial institution. This initiative represents a strategic step forward in our commitment to financial inclusivity and community development

#### 6. Additional Partnerships

Mission Valley Bank partners with the following programs:

a. <u>Valley Economic Alliance</u>:

Serves over 1,700 business owners annually providing webinars, general business services, operational services, and financial services.

Mission Valley Bank serves as a board member

b. <u>ICON – L.A. Business Source:</u>

https://iconcdc.org/about-us

Serves 2,000 low-income small businesses annually.

46 events per year

200 loans per year = \$2,000,000

Has 9 locations within San Fernando Valley and Mission Valley Bank is one of the designated lenders for applicants seeking commercial loans under \$1 million to small business owners located in LMI geographies.

c. <u>Southern California Virtual Business Center</u>:

Serves 500 low-income small businesses annually.

d. Valley Industry and Commerce Association

#### https://www.vica.com/

Since 1949, VICA has served as the San Fernando Valley's leading voice on business issues through advocacy efforts at all levels of government.

Mission Valley Bank serves on the diversity – equity - inclusion committee and monthly attends to business forums and educational workshops.

e. <u>Valley Economic Alliance</u>

#### https://thevalley.net/

The VEA is a nonprofit organization created to promote economic and workforce development. VEA offers consulting, workshops, business forums, and partnerships with local agencies. In 2021, 51% of the people who served in the Business Assistance Program were LMI and 82% were small businesses (under \$1M).

Mission Valley Bank financially supports and employees serve on the board, provide counseling to business owners, and are part of the business education team.

f. Valley Industry Association

https://www.via.org/

Established in 1981, the Valley Industry Association of Santa Clarita has been representing business interests throughout the Santa Clarita Valley. VIA provides a blend of industrial, commercial, and service companies, the opportunity to collaborate on a broad range of business issues. In addition to being a legislative advocate, VIA serves as a one-stop shop for relevant business information, supports local educational initiatives, and provides networking opportunities.

Mission Valley Bank loan officers attend VIA events every month where they are exposed to learn about the trends and needs of eligible borrowers. Mission Valley Bank serves on VIA Foundation Board. The Community Development Officer teaches financial literacy to students in LMI communities.

g. Office of Congressman Tony Cardenas

#### https://cardenas.house.gov/

Congressman Cardenas was first elected to the United States House of Representatives in 2013 and has represented California 29<sup>th</sup> district since then, this territory is part of Mission Valley Bank investment area. One of the main goals in his agenda is economic development and social mobility to LMI.

Mission Valley Bank provides presentations to the District Director and his staff of economic development deputies who interact with the general population. Congressman Cardenas has embraced Mission Valley Bank to collaborate on initiatives to improve financial literacy and entrepreneurship in the region. h. Meeting Each Need with Dignity (MEND)

https://mendpoverty.org/

Non-profit organization serving economically challenged communities of the San Fernando Valley.

Mission Valley Bank also serves on the Board of Directors for MEND.

i. FDIC – Alliance for Economic Inclusion

https://www.fdic.gov/consumer-resource-center/alliance-economic-inclusion

AEI members help promote the widespread availability and use of safe, affordable, and sustainable financial products from insured depository institutions that help people achieve financial stability and build wealth. AEIs seek to promote economic inclusion by providing a connection to the mainstream financial system that supports economic opportunity, particularly for low- and moderate-income households and communities and small businesses.

Community Development Manager and Coordinator attend quarterly meetings to collaborate with community based organizations to learn about the needs of their constituents. Based on these needs, Mission Valley Bank has engaged in supporting activities, such as serving on Advisory Boards and has built relationships with community based organizations. As a result of attending these meetings, the Community Development Manager has been invited to do presentations and teach webinars.

Also, at these events the FDIC – AEI offers sessions to small business owners. Community Development Manager offers assistance individually to answer questions about access to capital, loan package, and does referrals to CDFI micro lenders. Community Development Manager steer low-income applicants from using predator lenders and provides vital information about types of loans.

#### C. Mission Valley Bank Recognition for Civic Activities

Three members of Mission Valley Bank's management team received recognition for their civic activities in the San Fernando Valley. President and CEO, Community Development Manager and one of the Bank's Directors were recognized as members of the San Fernando Business Journal's Valley 200, in 2020, 2021 2022, 2023 and 2024. The Valley 200 are considered the most influential people in the San Fernando Region. The profiles include important business operators, opinion shapers and those active in civic affairs throughout the five-Valley region. The 200 are recognized for their leadership and their efforts to make our community a better place to live, work, play and learn. In addition, this year, the event paid an additional tribute to 20 special people that they called the Icons of Influence and described as "those who, through the years and probably through the decades, have consistently given their time, treasure and talent to make our community the great place it is."

## XIII. Community Outreach

Mission Valley Bank's priority is to continue formalizing the Community Development Division, hire more bankers to work with the community, and to continue partnering with local agencies providing technical assistance, financial training, and counseling.

Identified targeted needs are:

• **Promote Economic Development** — several enterprises have been identified that promote economic development and job creation by aiding small businesses within the AA.

- **Support Affordable Housing** The Bank will participate in and support activities that provide revitalization to targeted zones within the Bank's assessment areas.
- **Contribute to Community Development Enterprises** The Bank has identified community development organizations that need grants to support their office services and administrative functions.
- **Seek Small Business Lending** The Bank will continue to seek out opportunities to lend to small businesses, within its AAs, that have gross annual revenues of less than \$1,000,000, and who would not be able to obtain financing through a traditional financing institution.
- **Promote Revitalization and Stabilization** The Bank will work in identifying companies that help revitalize and stabilize neighborhoods and the surrounding economy in the assessment area.

## A. Lending Actions

The Bank will continue considering the following actions to support the success of the CRA lending goals for both small business loans and community development loans.

#### **1.** Small Business Loans

- ✓ Develop a suite of lending and deposit products targeted to small business.
- ✓ Maintain the SBA Preferred Lender Designation.
- ✓ Hold focus groups with community groups focused on small business lending and technical assistance to discuss additional small business lending needs.
- ✓ Maintain a small business loan and technical assistance referral program to local CDFIs and other nonprofit partners.
- ✓ Develop training and educational materials to educate community partners on the Bank's small business product suite.
- ✓ Design a marketing program to build awareness of all small business products offered by the Bank.
- ✓ Continue Bank marketing campaigns that include low and moderate and underserved communities.

#### 2. Community Development Loans

- ✓ Will continue expanding partnerships with CDFIs or qualified nonprofit organizations.
- ✓ Will continue participating in financial education of LMI communities.
- ✓ Mission Valley Bank Community Development Manager and bankers will continue to attend local community events. Through this exposure and interactions with the local community, Mission Valley Bank is attentive to the needs of low-income individuals.
- ✓ Mission Valley Bank's will continue formalizing the Community Development Division, hire more bankers to work with the community, and to continue partnering with local agencies providing technical assistance, financial training, and counseling.

#### **B. Lending Channels**

Mission Valley Bank intends to utilize the following channels for meeting its CRA lending goals. It is important to note that the Bank is not limiting itself to the specific channels described below, nor is it committing to utilize all of the specific channels described below. Thorough research has led us to believe that the following avenues meet the criteria established under the CRA Community Development definitions and restrictions and are quality organizations dedicated to worthwhile missions.

#### **1.** Small Business Lending

The Bank also understands that some of its usual lending activities can be counted for CRA credit. Loans approved for customers within our assessment area which have a commitment amount equal or under \$1,000,000 may qualify as a "small business loan". Some of these loans such as those to non-profit will not qualify as small business loans, however, they may qualify as community development loans. In addition, as an Intermediary Small Bank, the Bank has the option to elect small business loan or as community development loans such as 504 loans, as either small business loan or as community development loan (not both). For loans with a commitment amount greater than \$1,000,000, the loan may qualify as a "community development loan" for CRA evaluation purposes.

#### 2. Non-Profit Lending

The Bank will explore the possibility of low interest loans to other non-profit organizations serving the housing needs of low-to-moderate income individuals in its assessment area.

#### C. Community Development Investments

The Bank will invest in qualified CRA investments that support affordable housing, promote economic development and job creation thru small business lending. The Bank may invest in CDFIs and minority banks that serve the Bank's assessment area, those within the LA County area and within California as long as the Bank's assessment area is served.

#### D. Public Participation in Development of the Plan

Mission Valley Bank has solicited input from the community through daily exposure and discussions with community development organizations, financial intermediaries and government agencies, while developing this Strategic Plan. The Bank solicited input from entities within its AA including:

#### The Valley Economic Alliance (TVEA)

https://www.thevalley.net/ Contact: Sonya Blake 818.379.7000 sblake@economicalliance.org Date of contact 6/1/2024

#### **NEW Women's Business Center**

Contact: Ruth Garcia-corrales Phone (213) 483-2060 rgarciacorrales@neworg.us

#### ICON -CDC

Contact: Yoryana Aguilar Phone (818) 302-6114 yaguilar@iconcdc.org Date of contact 11/8/2024

## XIV. Satisfactory and Outstanding Goals

Mission Valley Bank believes the amended goals for lending, investment, and service, as specified above, adequately consider the realities of the Bank's current business model and operating environment and meeting these goals constitutes a "Satisfactory" or "Outstanding" performance, as appropriate, under CRA requirements.

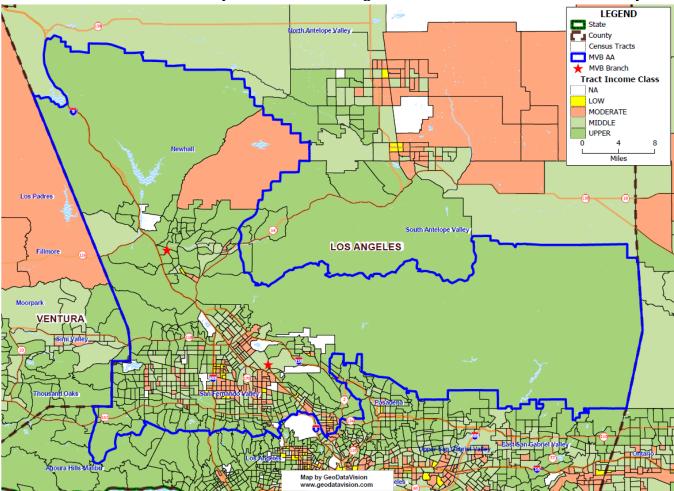
## XV. Ongoing Review of Performance Goals and Standards

Mission Valley Bank recognizes that the lending, investment, and service goals outlined in this Strategic Plan are based on general assumptions about the Bank's business model and industry as well as general economic conditions. These assumptions and conditions may change. As a result, the Board of Directors, or a committee thereof, will continue to monitor the Bank's performance concerning these goals on a quarterly basis. Any changes to the Plan that are deemed necessary as a result of these quarterly reviews will be made in accordance with the FDIC's requirements, guidelines, and approval process. Such changes are only expected to be made if there are significant changes to the underlying assumptions which render the goals contained in this Strategic Plan no longer viable or appropriate.

## XVI. Request for Approval

Management believes that this Strategic Plan is appropriate to meet the requirements of the CRA and FDIC regulations promulgated thereunder, and the Bank respectfully requests the FDIC's approval of this Strategic Plan.

#### ASSESSMENT AREA MAP



#### CALIFORNIA – 2 Census County Divisions, consisting of Newhall, CA, and San Fernando Valley