

About

The Silicon Valley Leadership Group is California's most dynamic business association. Building on more than four decades of success in championing the solutions that make Silicon Valley the best place to work and live, we promote a results-oriented agenda focused on fostering business competitiveness and the region's innovation ecosystem. Collectively, SVLG members provide nearly one of every three private sector jobs in Silicon Valley and contribute more than \$3 trillion to the worldwide economy each year. Our membership includes businesses of all sizes, as well as the most recognizable technology brands in the Valley.

| By the numbers



350+ members

From startups to industry leaders



\$3 trillion

in global economic impact



1 in 3

Private sector jobs in California's Silicon Valley

Mission

To support, enrich and drive the entrepreneurial innovation ecosystem of Silicon Valley for our members, our community and our leading industries.



Ahmad Thomas
Chief Executive Officer

Ahmad Thomas is the CEO of the Silicon Leadership Valley Group, the region's most dynamic business association. As a change agent and next generation business leader, Thomas partners with the organization's 350+ member companies to promote entrepreneurial solutions to strengthen Silicon Valley business competitiveness, bolster its innovation ecosystem, and create shared economic value throughout the greater Bay Area. In his first year as CEO, Thomas has catalyzed industry-leading initiatives to operationalize change around diversity, equity, and inclusion from the Boardroom to the C-suites and beyond. A former investment banker and senior Congressional aide, he brings nearly 20 years of experience working both in and on behalf of non-profit social enterprises, governments, and businesses, where he has honed a deep understanding of the essentiality of public-private partnerships and the intersection of equity, policy, and technology that drives Silicon Valley's innovation infrastructure.



Jed York
Chair | SVLG Board of Directors
Chief Executive Officer, San Francisco 49ers

As chief executive officer of the San Francisco 49ers, Jed York oversees all aspects of the organization. Now in his 16th year with the team and 11th as CEO, York has been a driving force behind the 49ers success on and off the field during that time.

SVLG Priorities

Climate & Energy
Economic Development
Education & Workforce

Housing, Health & Transportation
Racial Justice & Equity
Technology & Innovation

Highlighted Initiatives



Pledge 25x25

25X25 is a movement leading Silicon Valley companies to catalyze change for diversity, equity, and inclusion. Member companies continue to make strides with diversity policies and the opportunity for maximum impact exists in collective effort throughout the Valley and our country. 25x25 is the collective action to operationalize change while also recognizing the business imperative for diversity + inclusion that will address a critical void in the national discourse. Learn more about Pledge 25x25 [here](#).



Launch Circuit

The SVLG Launch Circuit initiative seeks to bolster the region's vibrant innovation ecosystem by building bridges between SVLG established member companies and next generation entrepreneurs, with a particular focus on female founders and founders of color. This ecosystem prioritizes networking, learning and access to capital opportunities, providing a space for entrepreneurs to learn, grow, and progress with the help of a network of experienced professionals and established firms.



Next Gen Board Network

The SVLG Next Generation Board Network (NGBN) is an industry-leading board readiness program for diverse executives. This year-long program identifies and accelerates corporate board preparation and networking opportunities in Silicon Valley for a diverse cohort of high-potential leaders. The program is sponsored by EY and Equilar.



Strengthening Business Competitiveness

By tackling the region's most pressing challenge — the housing crisis — SVLG is leading efforts to improve the Bay Area's business competitiveness. As one of the driving forces behind SB 828 (2017), which requires nine Bay Area counties to double the amount of planned housing near jobs, transit and high opportunity areas, SVLG is actively supporting the development of tens of thousands of new housing units for all income levels across the region, including up to 20,000 homes in Sunnyvale's Moffett Park Plan and up to 7,000 homes in the Mountain View North Bayshore Plan. SVLG is also supporting member-driven market-based solutions, such as the new Google Downtown West development coming soon to San Jose, CA, which will bring more than 1,000 homes to the city.

Leadership in Action



INCREASING CALTRAIN CAPACITY

In 2019, SVLG put plans in place to co-lead a 2020 regional transit measure that will include funding to double Caltrain capacity. In 2018, SVLG co-led Regional Measure 3, which included \$350M in funds to improve Diridon Station – a key Caltrain juncture. In 2017, SVLG worked with Senator Feinstein to re-claim \$760M in federal funds that had been secured for Caltrain improvements and then pulled back by the US Department of Transportation.



LEADING STATEWIDE AND REGIONAL PROGRESS ON HOUSING

SVLG co-led the successful campaigns to pass Propositions 1 and 2 in 2018, which together will direct \$6B for housing veterans, the elderly, and other vulnerable populations across California. SVLG also established the Housing Trust of Silicon Valley, an organization that has raised more than \$335 million in voluntary contributions to leverage billions of dollars to build 20,105 homes that have housed more than 38,000 individuals and families.



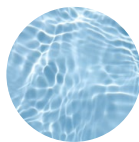
BUILDING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

SVLG has helped pass multiple state laws that encourage the creation of sustainable transit oriented developments like Downtown West in San Jose which will create 7.3 million square feet of office space, over 25,000 jobs, 4,000 new homes (1,000 of them affordable), and fifteen acres of parks next to a multimodal transit hub of Diridon Station.



LEADING CHANGE FOR RACIAL EQUITY

SVLG is the only business trade association to support a bill requiring corporations to have diverse boards of directors (AB 979) and a bill focused on police accountability (SB 2). Additionally, SVLG launched the Next Generation Board Network (NGBN) - a program for diverse executives designed to highlight minority and female candidates for board recruitment.



PROTECTING SAFE, RELIABLE WATER SUPPLY

SVLG supported the successful 2012 Santa Clara County water measure to guarantee continued access to clean, safe water. It also helped defeat Proposition F in San Francisco, which would have cost billions in taxpayer dollars and threatened a major source of reliable Bay Area drinking water. Recently in 2020, SVLG supported Measure S, which continued critical funding to protect the supply of safe, clean water in Santa Clara County, without raising taxes.

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Leadership in Action



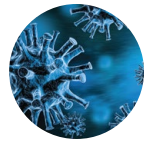
LEADING ON THE CLEAN ECONOMY

SVLG was the first major business voice to support the Global Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act (AB 32) in 2006, and played a major leadership role in the effort to defeat Proposition 23 in 2010, which would have eviscerated AB 32 and hence done major damage to the clean energy economy.



BRINGING BART TO SILICON VALLEY

Extending BART to Silicon Valley and linking it with Caltrain and future High-Speed Rail has been a two-decade priority for SVLG members. It will complete a vision over a half-century in the making to provide rapid commuter rail that rings the Bay. 2020 saw the opening of Phase 1, and SVLG continues to champion the Phase 2 extension and the recovery of our region's public transit.



RAISING ALMOST \$9M FOR COVID RELIEF

SVLG, working from home as of March 17th, 2020, immediately made a pivot to our 2020-2022 Workplan, serving our members and our communities in many ways. Our members raised \$8,535,000 for frontline workers in four months. SVLG has hosted many informational Zoom Town Halls since March 17, 2020. Our members have collected and shared their best practices for getting back to work for solar installers, construction, manufacturing and tech office spaces.



DIVERSIFYING STEM

We established the Hire Learning program in 2018 to bring diverse college students into STEM fields. Overwhelmingly, the students we serve do not have connections to professionals in the innovation economy, so we build this bridge. During the last three years, we have secured up to 60 internships, externships and apprenticeships at SVLG companies annually, and expanded career horizons for more than 3,000 students through guest speakers, one-on-one interviews with industry professionals, career fairs, and site visits to leading Silicon Valley companies.



BIGGEST TURKEY TROT IN THE NATION

Beginning in 2005, SVLG grew the Silicon Valley Turkey Trot into the largest timed race of its kind in the nation, with more than 25,000 paid participants in 2015. More than \$10M has been donated over that time to the Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties, Housing Trust Silicon Valley, Healthier Kids Foundation Santa Clara County, the Health Trust and Second Harvest Food Bank Santa Cruz County.

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