



WORLD BUSINESS ACADEMY

Sharing the Vision... Building the Network... Healing the Planet

For Immediate Release

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Santa Barbara, California - The Mosaic project, four food businesses preparing to open up shop at a vacant location on State Street next month, is back on track today after the World Business Academy's State Street Task Force and city officials worked quickly this week to overturn a city stop-work order.

Gathered together by Impact Hub and the SIMA corporation, Hook & Press Donuts, Draughtsmen Aleworks, Buena Onda Empanadas and Juice Ranch are jointly opening a mini food lab in the old Peet's Coffee location at 1131 State St. On Tuesday, Aug. 28, a city inspector came in and issued a stop-work order after workers removed a cabinet affixed to a wall, which the city's chief building official determined might need a permit.

Amy Cooper, owner of Plum Goods on State street and chair of the World Business Academy State Street Task Force, said several people concerned about the shut-down of the new business contacted her right away. Cooper immediately emailed Mayor Cathy Murillo and Councilman Eric Friedman about the issue, which drew the community's attention after the Noozhawk online news site reported it. Both Murillo and Friedman responded immediately and by the end of this week, the stop-work order on the new Mosaic project had been lifted, Cooper said.

"We were incredibly pleased with the city's response and resolution," Cooper said Friday. "This shows they are responsive to the community's feedback. We have a positive, solutions-oriented approach and are happy to have open communication lines with the city."

"Not only did the city act quickly but this gives us all an opportunity to see how the process can work and gives us insight into how to improve it moving forward," Cooper said. She thanked the city and said she is gratified to see so many others in the community working together to help bring new, vibrant businesses to State Street.

World Business Academy Chief of Staff Kristy Jansen said about the Mosaic, "What the public has been asking for is that people come up with creative and innovative ways to quickly turn spaces around and this is a great project."

"The message in this is that our voices matter," Jansen said. "It's important for us to be

clear and communicate in a coordinated way. Part of what we are trying to shift is how this community thinks about development. We need more creative and expansive thinking to bring vibrancy back to State Street.” The non-profit World Business Academy and Cooper have been leading a community-wide effort for the past several months to revitalize and improve Downtown Santa Barbara and State Street. Visit www.worldbusiness.org.