



PRESS RELEASE

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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New LEED Certified Biotech Facility Comes to Santa Monica *Director of GO-Biz delivers keynote at opening of new R&D hub*

Santa Monica, Calif. Director of the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) Kish Rajan, today helped cut the ribbon on a landmark new biotech facility from Agensys – an industry leader in therapeutic antibody research & development of cancer treatments.

“Facilities like this one point once again to the vital part that Biotech and life sciences play in the California economy,” said GO-Biz Director Rajan. “California biotech companies generated nearly 70 billion dollars of revenue last year. And innovation from California laboratories provided 21% percent of the nation's biomedical R&D pipeline. The transforming therapies and treatments of tomorrow will come from places like this and we are proud that Agensys chose Santa Monica.”

The 160,000 square foot facility from Agensys – an affiliate of Tokyo based Astellas – will employ over 300 people and will achieve LEED Silver certification. The state-of-the-art facility emphasizes sustainability and will be geared to the development of innovative pharmaceuticals for cancer patients with still unmet medical needs.

Director Rajan was joined by State Senator Ted Lieu, Assemblymember Richard Bloom and Santa Monica City Councilmembers Gleam Davis and Tony Vazquez for the facility dedication. Director Rajan held media availability after the event where he discussed the strength of the biotech industry and its importance to the California's economy.

A recent report by BayBio, California Healthcare Institute and PriceWaterhouse Coopers pointed to a dominance by California in biotech & lifesciences as well as an increase in the pace of product approvals. In the last year, nine of the 32 novel medicines approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration were developed by Life sciences companies in California and was the number one ranked state in a number of categories including biomedical jobs, biomedical venture capital investments and funding from the National Institute of Health.

The Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) serves as California's single point of contact for economic development and job creation efforts. GO-Biz offers a range of services to business owners including: attraction, retention and expansion services, site selection, permit streamlining, clearing of regulatory hurdles, small business assistance, international trade development, assistance with state government, and much more. For more information visit: www.business.ca.gov.

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