

For Immediate Release

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**LOS ANGELES DOWNTOWN CENTER BID NAMES
WILLIAMSON NEW ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER**

LOS ANGELES (April 26, 2000) -- The Los Angeles Downtown Center Business Improvement District (BID), a coalition of property owners in the 65-block central city area, has named Lawrence Williamson as manager of economic development, a new position.

"We are pleased to have Lawrence Williamson on board, spearheading a major effort to bring even more technology firms to the city's core and create a "Digital Downtown," said Bret Bernard, Downtown Center BID economic development director.

In addition, Williamson plans to work closely with Downtown Center BID property owners, developers and real estate brokers to encourage the conversion of older Class B and C office buildings into residential units.

Previously President of CUDA West Parts Washers Inc., an industrial cleaning equipment manufacturing and distributing firm, Williamson brings 14 years of real estate development experience in the public, private and non profit

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Downtown Center BID, 2-2-2

sectors to the Downtown Center BID. His career includes development and management positions with two Los Angeles real estate firms, the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corp., and five years with the City of Cincinnati.

Williamson serves on the executive boards of Nehemia West Housing Corp. and the Los Angeles Church of Christ, and on the Crenshaw Community Advisory Council.

He holds a bachelor's of science degree from Southern Illinois University.

The Downtown Center BID is a coalition of property owners united in their commitment to enhance the quality of life in Downtown Los Angeles. The organization aims to help the 65-block central business district--The Heart of the City--achieve its full potential. Nearly 250 property owners provide funds to the district via a special tax assessment. Further information on Downtown events and real estate opportunities is available at **www.downtownla.com**.

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