

# Multi-Site Church Planting Models

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## What Is a Multi-Site Church?

- A Single Church
- With Multiple Worship Services
- In Multiple Locations

## Types of Multi-Site Churches

### Different Models

- Same Campus, Multi-Venue
- Regional Multi-Site
- Extended Multi-Site
- Multi-Congregational & Multi-Site
- Live Speakers vs. Video Venues

### Similarities in the Models:

- Oversight by One Board
- Live Worship
- Shared Resources

## What's the Attraction?

- A Creative Way to Manage Growth
- A Strategy for Reaching a Different Community
- A Cost-Effective Means to Maximize a Church Planter's Gifts and Vision



# San Diego Case Study

## Harbor Presbyterian Church

### Harbor's Values & Vision

- Gospel-Centered
- Missional
- City-Positive
- Multi-Ethnic
- Multi-Cultural
- Multi-Congregational
- Multi-Site
- Ministry Mercies
- Changed Lives

### San Diego Context

- Population: 1.3 Million
- Second Largest City in California
- Seventh Largest City in the United States
- Under-Churched:
  - USA Average: 12 churches/10,000 people
  - San Diego: 3 churches/10,000 people
- San Diego/Tijuana Border Crossing the World's Busiest

### Six Sites in Six Years

- Downtown: 2000
- La Jolla/UTC: 2001
- Carmel Valley: 2003
- Chula Vista: 2004
- Uptown: 2004
- Mira Mesa: 2005

## **The Harbor Structure: Multi-Congregational & Multi-Site**

- Harbor is a “vine” (church) with several “peapods” (congregations), each with two or three “peas” (sites).
- Each church planter/pastor starts a peapod that is connected to the vine.
- The vine (one church) has oversight with one board, one corporation, one membership roll, and centralized accounting functions.

## **Multi-Site Advantages: Centralized Administration**

### **One:**

- Corporation
- Session
- Membership Roll
- Employer ID #
- Bank Account
- Insurance Carrier

### **Central Services**

- Finances
- Bulletins
- Leases
- Insurances
- Taxes
- Personnel Issues

## **Multi-Site Advantages: De-Centralized Ministry**

- Training of Small Group Leaders
- Training of Ministry Team Leaders
- Ministry Structure (Different Emphases)
- Separate Congregational/Site Budgets



## **Multi-Site Advantages: Centralized Leadership**

### **One Session:**

- Guardian of Vision
- Legal/Ecclesiastical Requirements
- Elders Do Not Represent Sites
- Officer Training Centralized

## **Multi-Site Advantages: Ongoing Training & Renewal**

### **Pastor/Church Planter Meetings:**

- Meet Each Month
  
- Morning: Alliance Church Planters
  - Training Topics
  - Sharing, Prayer & Personal Gospel Renewal
  
- Afternoon: Harbor Pastors
  - Financial Reports
  - Sermon Schedules
  - Joint Projects
  - Special Services
  - Ministry Support

## **Multi-Site Advantages: Ministry Retreats**

### **Semi-Annual Pastor Retreats:**

- Personal Sharing
- Sermon Planning
- Long-Range Planning
- Ministry Discussions

## **Multi-Site Advantages: Value of Team Ministry**

- Support for Spouses
- Internship Training
- Ongoing Mentoring



## Multi-Site Advantages: Centralized Ministry

- “Big Church Ministries, Small Church Feel”
- Wide Variety of Mercy Ministries
- Regular Joint Services
  - Good Friday
  - Christmas Eve
  - Vision Nights
- Church Planting Fund (10% of Offerings)

## Summary of Multi-Site Benefits

1. Unified vision and values.
2. Big church ministries, small church feel
3. Opportunity for growth in more than one community.
4. Enables pastors/church planters to do the main thing instead of changing priorities.
5. Unleashes gifts in the body.
6. Shared costs, new/increased giving units.
7. Allows for different worship styles.
8. Trains and supports church planters and spouses.