

Columbia-Pacific Economic Development District 2009

Issue 7

January 2010

A Year to Remember

While by most accounts, 2009 was a pretty rough year for NW Oregon, it also can be said that our trademark Resiliency carried us through, and provided us with the ability to have some successes:

◆ 2009 marked Col-Pac's 15th Anniversary as a federally designated, member supported Oregon Economic Development District

◆ \$670,000 in small business financing was loan out, retaining 47 jobs and creating 17 new jobs

◆ \$200,000 in additional EDA Disaster Recovery funds resulted in completion of critical LIDAR mapping of NW Oregon's hillsides and flood plains, and staffing of Vernonia's rebuilding efforts

◆ \$60,000 in USDA Disaster Recovery technical assistance funds were provided to support local economic development efforts: Start-up of a Historic Preservation Cluster in Clatsop County, planning for an Airport Industrial Park at the Port of Tillamook Bay, and Rose Ave commercial development in Vernonia

◆ Business retention funding for a company in Astoria, retaining 8 jobs averaging \$65,000 per year

Regionally, our local economic development partners had successes as well:

◆ NW Oregon received nearly \$100 million in ARRA, FEMA and State funding for public infrastructure and energy enhancement projects

◆ Vernonia passed a \$13 million School Bond Measure, laying the foundation for rebuilding its K-12 school system

◆ Tillamook Bay Community College completed its new campus

Looking ahead to 2010, Col-Pac remains committed to our primary mission—that of improving NW Oregon's economic development. That means we will continue to work with our local economic development partners to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our citizens and businesses. Our 2010 work plan has been handed out, but the six key focus areas will be:

◆ Sustaining and Retaining NW Oregon's Current Businesses

◆ Developing Public Services Infrastructure to Support Business Development

◆ Diversifying and Expanding NW Oregon's Regional Economy

◆ Supporting the Region's Efforts to Provide Trained Workers for Existing and Future Needs of Business

◆ Supporting the Region's Transportation System

◆ Maintaining a High Level of Economic Development Cooperation, Coordination and Communication within NW Oregon

Thank you everyone for all you have done to help us achieve our successes over the last year, and for making NW Oregon survive the tough times. We're looking forward to a positive 2010.

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Col-Pac 2010 Work Plan: Actions and Evaluation Measures

Goal 1: Sustain and Retain NW Oregon's Current Businesses

Actions: Provide/Package small business financing
Support business cluster development activity
Support training to the region's businesses including LEAN operations practices, new technologies for marketing and operations, and upgraded workforce skills
Support local business disaster recovery and preparation activity

Evaluation Measures:

Number of small businesses retained through involvement with Col-Pac, and/or the region's local economic development councils.
Job retention
Participation of the local lending community—Number of loans to local businesses by local lenders, Economic Development Council of Tillamook County and Col-Pac EDD.
Completion of Vernonia's Rose Avenue development planning

Goal 2: Develop Public Services Infrastructure to Support Business Development

Actions: Compile an inventory of NW Oregon's public infrastructure, including current status (condition) and local priorities for updating
Develop an objective project priority ranking system
Support funding of top ranked projects, including working with potential federal and state funding agencies
Maintain the current status of NW Oregon's public infrastructure inventory on the NWOregon.org website, including status of project funding

Evaluation Measures:

Priority infrastructure projects funded and implemented
Failing systems addressed

Goal 3: Diversify and Expand NW Oregon's Regional Economy

Actions: Add ZoomProspector to NW Oregon's commercial and industrial lands database.
Support business cluster development activity
Participate in the identification and implementation of new industry development activity, such as, alternative energy, sustainable fisheries, historic preservation, marine services, aviation, construction, agriculture and wood products.

Evaluation Measures:

Business expansions
Business start-ups
New Family wage jobs

Goal 4: Support the Region's Efforts to Provide Trained Workers for Existing and Future Needs of Business

Actions: Serve on NW Oregon's Workforce Investment Board and Employer Workforce Response Team to provide workforce training information and training to local businesses
Support/Advocate for community college curricula and services for NW Oregon's existing and incoming workforce, with classes provided within the region

Evaluation Measures:

Number of workers provided upgraded skills
Number of workers going through local community college and/or small business development center classes or trainings

Goal 5: Support the Region's Transportation System

Actions: Staff NW Oregon's Area Commission on Transportation
Compile an inventory of current conditions and a list of unmet needs from local Transportation System Plans
Identify what corresponding facilities and activities are needed to support transportation throughout NW Oregon

Evaluation Measures:

Needed improvements funded through state and/or federal resources

Goal 6: Maintain a High Level of Economic Development Cooperation, Coordination, and Communication

Actions: Provide public information on regional economic development resources and activities through regular, ongoing electronic communication: Col-Pac EDD Newsletter, website, and email
Support/Advocate for established/enhanced economic development service delivery capacity throughout NW Oregon

Evaluation Measures:

Number of projects successfully directed to funding opportunities
Col-Pac EDD and County Economic Development Councils operational and sustained including having staff, adequate operations and resources to make progress on their guiding goals and plans; and having strong board leadership and all board positions filled
Number of communities covered by an active business retention program

Special Thanks:

2009 Volunteer of the Year:

Mark Labhart, Col-Pac President

Funding Partners:

Economic Development Administration
USDA Rural Business Services

Col-Pac's 2009 Board of Directors

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(Alternate)
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(Alternate)
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(Alternate)
Astoria: Peter Roscoe

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Clatsop County Private Sector: Susan Trabucco,
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Julie Gassner, Mgmt Training Corp (MTC)
Higher Education: Jon Carnahan, Tillamook Bay Com-
munity College
Greg Hamann, Clatsop Community College

Col-Pac's Staff

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