

**Columbia County Economic
Team
St. Helens City Council**

Member/Partner Update
Wednesday, March 3, 2021

Columbia Economic Team - Update

- 2020 Focus and culmination
- Now and Near – Looking Forward
 - Current organizational focus
 - Current activity in investment
 - Business retention
 - Expansion
 - Recruitment
- Communication/Outreach
- General Updates

Looking back: Core Activity – Business Retention

2020 Grant-making activity

- County Grant program -- Summary/results
 - 166 applications, 159 grants = \$929,274
 - Est. 200+ hours
- Business Oregon Grants -- Round 4
 - 110 applications, 103 grants = \$529,952
 - Est. 190 hours
- Business Oregon/County – Round 1
 - 61 applications, 53 grants = \$212,952
- **Total dollars** to businesses/non-profits = \$1,644,506
- **Total estimated hours** = 700+

Columbia County Grants

Breakdown of grants received, by community and size of company or organization:

Clatskanie	15	\$72,361.50
Columbia City	7	\$38,085.00
Deer Island	1	\$3,808.50
Rainier	16	\$129,489.00
Scappoose	36	\$190,425.00
St. Helens	64	\$384,653.00
Vernonia	12	\$64,744.50
Warren	8	\$45,702.00

Awards by size of company

0-3	98
4-10	38
11-25	21
26-50	2

Specifically, approximately \$258,978 was awarded to the Hospitality sector (Bars/Eateries/Lodging)

Grants cont'd

- **Business Oregon** -- Round 5 (4)
- **CRF Grant** (City of St. Helens) – \$15,000; results/expenditures
 - Business workshops
 - PCC Scholarship
 - Grant admin/reporting
 - Computer/technology
 - Subscriptions/content
 - Web development
- **PPE Grant** - \$50,000
- **Lessons learned**, value gained, projections for 2021
 - Local business familiarity & insight
 - Sector insight
 - Business assistance/referrals
 - Business/non-profit consulting
 - Local resource insight
 - Collaboration

Business engagement

- Direct business assistance - Grant related
 - SBDC (2)
 - Non-profit counselling, development (3)
 - Start-up/re-brand (2)
 - Business/Grant consultation (14)
 - Built Oregon (2)
 - Workshops (14+)
- Property (4)
- Buildings/Commercial (3)

Looking Forward

- Emerging from grants, pivotal role
- Shift to balance full economic development
- More direct business contact, outreach, referral
- Resuming organizational/administration focus, planning
- Focus on small business resources
- Pick-up in investment inquiries/prospects
- Marketing – website redevelopment
- Stakeholder engagement and updates

Expansion/Recruitment/Investment

- Enterprise Zone –
 - Cascades – authorized by all partners, agreement signed
 - Control Solutions – Agreement & Authorization, March 2021
- GPI/Business Oregon – 5 projects
 - Falcon
 - Raven
 - Merlin Plastics
 - BioEnergy DEVCO
 - Medical clinic
- Native prospects –
 - 1 relocation
 - 1 expansion
- New/increased activity
 - Global Partners
 - Next Renewables
 - JT Marine
- Port coordination
- Business Oregon & GPI Coordination – New Director & CEO

Communication/Outreach

- Daily news update – Emphasis on grants, new business start/re-start, new stimulus, re-opening
- Website/Logo/Branding
 - Advisory panels
 - Timeline
- Updates
 - New federal stimulus/PPP
 - OSU Capstone Project
 - Legislature/OEDA Public Policy
 - Workforce/PCC
 - Regional Solutions/Equity in Recovery
 - CCET Community Report

General Updates

- High Risk
- Governor's proposed budget
- Landlord Relief Fund
- New federal stimulus
- Tourism Destination Development grants
- Grant writing/Small business workshops
- Small business Resource Center
- PPE
- Broadband Action Team
- South County Roundtable
- Chambers of Commerce

Thank you!

- What you do
- Support
- Partnership
- Creativity, feedback