Columbia River Economic Development Council

Presentation to Washington State Transportation Commission: Transportation and Economic Vitality

Presented by Mike Bomar, President
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Current Activities and Initiatives

2015 ACTIVITY RECAP

• Over 100 unique business visits
• 8 recruitment wins
• 21 business growth/expansion wins
  • Combined, recruitment & expansion projects will bring an estimated 650 jobs and over $41.3 million in capital investment upon completion

2016 CURRENT ACTIVITY

• 5 recruitment wins YTD
  • 29 active recruitment projects
• 10 business growth/expansion wins YTD
  • 24 active business growth/expansion projects

2016 INITIATIVES

• Economic development plan update
• Employment land study
• STEM initiatives
• Entrepreneurship space/network/funding
• IPZ 2.0
CLARK COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN:
• Technology Services
• Technology Products
• Wealth Management Services
• Agricultural Processing
• Healthcare Management
• Logistics & Distribution

GPI 2020 PLAN:
• Metal & Machinery
• Computer & Electronics
• Clean Tech
• Athletic & Outdoor
• Software & Media
• Health Sciences & Technology

EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES:
• Composites: Recreational Products, Natural Fiber Composites
• Life Sciences/Biotech/Digital Health
2016 INFRASTRUCTURE POLICIES:

2016 Legislative Request:

• Restore and retain funding to the Public Works Trust Fund.
• Support C-TRAN’s request for additional funding for para-transit service to better meet the requirements of special needs citizens.
• Advocate for funding the remaining critical projects outlined in the Clark County Transportation Alliance 2016 Policy Statement.
  • Examples: SR 14 widening, 179th Street

Ongoing Priorities:

• Progress is needed towards addressing the known deficiencies on the I-5 Columbia River Corridor, which serves as a primary freight, commerce, and commuter route. The corridor is currently an internationally recognized chokepoint that constricts commerce flow and compromises safety, freight mobility, and economic development.
• Provide options and tools to local governments and agencies to fund infrastructure that enables economic development, such as Value Capture Financing and local incentives to encourage industrial development (CREDC/WEDA).
Questions?

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