



# Columbia-Pacific Economic Development District July 2014 Newsletter

AUGUST 4, 2014

## Col-Pac Awarded a \$10,000 Ford Family Foundation WealthWorksNW Grant to Map Out Agriculture Value-Chain



Rural Development Initiatives (RDI) has teamed with the Ford Family Foundation to bring the national WealthWorks rural economic development model to Oregon. Col-Pac successfully applied to be one of 5 regions in the State to explore an industry development opportunity that will create wealth through market interactions that are owned, controlled and reinvested locally.

Teaming Clatsop, Tillamook and Lincoln counties, Col-Pac is coordinating an effort to identify transformational activities with the Agriculture and Fishing industries to match up local producers and fishers with new and diverse markets. This exploratory phase will continue until the end of October 2014. Should one or more significant projects surface, Col-Pac will follow through on a secondary application for \$300,000--\$600,000 in construction funding.

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For the second year in a row, the Bank of the West has awarded Col-Pac \$5,000 in funding to support business development in NW Oregon. These grants are being used to capitalize Col-Pac's loan funds which provide investment capital to local businesses unable to get enough conventional financing.

Most recently, Col-Pac assisted with Sunset Auto in Seaside, which is now under new ownership, and re-employing 10 workers, while adding 3 new jobs.

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## Port of Garibaldi Wharf Renovation Funded by EDA and ConnectOregon4 to Finish Way Ahead of Schedule

Bergerson Construction, out of Astoria, was able to complete all of the in-water work in one season, which has allowed the \$4.8 million project to finish a year early, and to use the savings to complete an additional 5% decking. This project will allow the Port to attract marine services such as cold storage, that have heavier deck load needs.



Col-Pac has been assisting the project by providing grant administrative services, including labor standards certification and financial services.

## NW Oregon's Connector System Kicks off 2014 Ridership Campaign

NW Oregon's nationally acclaimed transit system linking five transit districts, kicks off its new ridership campaign this month. Targeting visitors from Portland, Salem and Corvallis, the campaign encourages transit travel out to the Coast via 3 and 7 day visitor passes, good for unlimited travel up and down the coast. Unique to Oregon, Benton, Clatsop, Columbia, Lincoln and Tillamook county transit districts have coordinated schedules to allow seamless travel. The first year of the visitor passes resulted in over 400 passes sold.



## Col-Pac Completes its 2014–2018 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

Following a two-year public involvement process, the Col-Pac EDD Board of Directors approved Col-Pac's 2014–2018 CEDS.

Implementation is already underway on six different priorities:

- GOAL 1: Sustain and Retain NW Oregon's Current Businesses
- GOAL 2: Develop Public Services Infrastructure to Support Business Development
- GOAL 3: Diversify and Expand NW Oregon's Regional Economy
- GOAL 4: Support the Region's Efforts to Have Sufficient Resources, Facilities and Programs to Provide Trained Workers for Existing and Future Needs of Business
- GOAL 5: Support the Region's Transportation System
- GOAL 6: Maintain High Level of Economic Development Cooperation

Updating and implementation of Col-Pac's CEDS is underwritten by an annual \$75,000 EDA Partnership Planning Grant which is matched by Col-Pac's members. Col-Pac's 24 person membership includes Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook and western Washington counties, all incorporated cities and ports within the region, Clatsop, Tillamook and Portland community colleges, workforce training, and the private sector.