

ONWARD

PIERCE COUNTY MEANS BUSINESS

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In it for the long haul: A message from Suzanne Dale Estey, Executive Director, Washington Economic Development Association (WEDA)

Communities, employers and families across Washington are still reeling from the unprecedented economic impact of COVID-19. Despite significant federal relief, emergency state investments and hard work by so many, economic recovery remains a long haul.

WEDA's priorities for the 2023 legislative session focus on the most critical actions lawmakers and agencies can take to help recover and grow living-wage jobs, foster vibrant and resilient communities, spark reinvestment, and support equity and opportunity for all. Working closely with our diverse and talented WEDA members, including the EDB, we are particularly focused on strengthening the economic development ecosystem and other investments in infrastructure and programs that boost economic development and job growth at the regional and local levels.

Please read more about WEDA's legislative agenda in this newsletter.



WEDA sets 2023 legislative priorities

The 2023 legislative session kicks off Jan. 9, and the Washington Economic Development Association is ready.

[Read more](#)



South Sound Tech Conference offers something for everyone

After a two-year COVID hiatus, the day-long conference will be back in person on the UW Tacoma campus Jan. 27.

[Read more](#)



New year, new EDB economic development activity

The EDB continues to help smooth the way for successful and seamless business expansions and transitions.

[Read more](#)



EDB board gathers info on new regional airport

EDB board members heard from one of the principals involved in the airport selection-recommendation process.

[Read more](#)

NEW! Evergreen Manufacturing Growth Grant application opens

Individual businesses and industrial innovation cluster organizations in Washington State are eligible to apply for grants of \$200,000-\$400,000. The Washington Department of Commerce will award up to 10 grants. [Read more](#)

NEWSBRIEFS

Horizons Economic Forecast, Jan. 26

Prepare for 2023 with the Horizons Economic Forecast presented by the Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber of Commerce. Hear from business leaders and leading economists about our local, regional and national economies.

[Read more](#)

Register: Black-Owned Business Excellence Symposium, Feb. 1

Kick off Black History Month at the Fourth Annual Black-Owned Business Excellence Symposium. Registration is required, and space is limited.

[Register](#)

New! Online directory spotlights BIPOC, women and veteran-owned businesses

Shop local and support businesses that worked through the Pierce County Business Accelerator Program. PCBAmap.biz is searchable by business location and category and features an interactive map.

[Explore](#)

UW Tacoma's Puget Sound Institute announces start of \$4.8M integrated ecosystem model

The project will link five smaller models to create a fuller picture of the Puget Sound ecosystem and support regional planning and decision-making.

[Read more](#)

Comcast RISE awards \$200K to Pierce County businesses

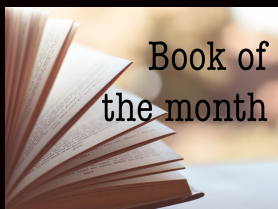
Twenty Pierce County small businesses were among the recipients of \$10,000 grants. The awards were given to 100 small businesses in King and Pierce counties.

[Read more](#)

Washington is the best state for jobs

Washington is the most attractive state for employment, according to WalletHub. The ranking was based on comparisons of 50 states across 35 key indicators.

[Read more](#)



What are you reading?

Tamsin Bell, EDB Vice President of Business Development, recommends [The Organic Machine: The Remaking of the Columbia River](#) by Richard White.

"This is an excellent book that explores the

relationships between cultures, industry and nature through a regional perspective and offers lesson learned from mistakes.”

NEWS

[Deeper Port of Tacoma channel could be good for the local economy](#)

[Project aims to elevate Pierce County’s entrepreneurial support system](#)

[Heritage Distilling to go public through SPAC merger](#)

[A year of the Pierce County Business Accelerator](#)

[MJR Development updating Tacoma tower in bid for satellite offices](#)

[State’s life science industry attracted \\$5B in 2021 investments](#)

[Trammell Crow gets green light for Pierce County warehouse project](#)

[Tacoma Centre begins comprehensive renovation](#)

Team With Us

253.383.4726

info@edbtacomapierce.org

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Onward is a service of the EDB, a non-profit corporation focused on recruitment and retention of primary businesses in Tacoma and Pierce County, Washington, USA.

950 Pacific Avenue, Suite 410 | Tacoma, Washington 98402 | 253.383.4726

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