

ONWARD

PIERCE COUNTY MEANS BUSINESS

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WestRock mill closure a blow - and an opportunity: A message from CEO Bruce Kendall

As the saying goes, when one door closes
another door opens.

On Aug. 1, 2023, [WestRock Company](#) announced plans to shut down its Tacoma paper mill and put the 60-acre property up for sale. While this is a very unfortunate decision, particularly for the 400 hard-working employees of the mill and their families, the wheels are in motion to determine how best the EDB and its partners can assist in getting this key property into the

hands of a new owner engaged in advanced manufacturing. And for the employees, [WorkForce Central](#) has already created a Rapid Response team to assist those impacted.

More to come on this story in future Onward newsletters.



Pierce County Manufacturing Expo: Oct. 5

Manufacturing Day is Oct. 5, and there's no better way to celebrate and support the sector than at the Pierce County Manufacturing Expo at Clover Park Technical College.

[Read more](#)



Back to school: Career and Technical Education programs

Career and Technical Education is not only an important pathway to success, but it also supports local economic growth.

[Read more](#)



Affordable funding for manufacturing and processing projects

The Economic Development Corporation of Pierce County (EDCPC) issues tax-free bonds for businesses looking to expand or relocate their facilities.

[Read more](#)



EDB represents in Dallas at International Economic Development Council conference

The event is the largest yearly gathering of economic development professionals from across the country and around the globe.

[Read more](#)

SAVE *the* DATE EDB ANNUAL MEETING

edb | ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD



03.20.24

GREATER TACOMA CONVENTION & TRADE CENTER
• 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM • MORE DETAILS COMING SOON



Are you ready to export? Sept. 27: Meet the SBA Office of International Trade

The Small Business Administration offers free monthly webinars on export assistance that feature conversations with Washington Export Outreach members. [Read more and register](#)

NEWS BRIEFS

Aerospace Futures Alliance Summit comes to Point Ruston waterfront: Sept. 13

Join thought-leaders from Washington's aerospace industry to discuss the most pressing issues facing the industry and share solutions with federal and state elected

Washington Small Business Fair in Puyallup: Sept. 23

The Washington State Fair isn't the only big happening in Puyallup this month. The city will also host the 2023 Washington Small Business Fair. The event offers free resources, assistance and seminars for current and aspiring

The economic and social impact of state fairs

Based on a 2021 report found prepared for the Washington State Department of Agriculture, agricultural fairs held across Washington generate nearly \$400 million in business revenue, around \$10 million in tax revenues and 3,200

officials.

[Read more](#)

small business owners.

[Read more](#)

jobs.

[Read more](#)



Our favorite bites in Pierce County

EDB Vice President for Business Recruitment Sarah Bonds recommends Puyallup's [Bourbon Street Creole Kitchen & Bar](#).

"The menu transports your tastebuds to New Orleans. You can't go wrong with the blackened catfish or the gumbo. Be sure to save room for the beignets!"

NEWS

[Tacoma adopts resolution to expand opportunities for micro-businesses](#)

[Tacoma Community College breaks ground on Center for Innovative Learning and Engagement](#)

[Pierce Transit to pause Pac Ave/SR-7 Bus Rapid Transit project](#)

[Puyallup Tribe acquires Fife-based candy company](#)

[Washington African American Chamber opens Pierce County office](#)

[United Way of Pierce County marks century of service](#)

[8 tips to improve communication on your startup team](#)

Team With Us

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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.

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