

PIERCE COUNTY
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DEVELOPMENT
BOARD TACOMA
PIERCE COUNTY

ONWARD

PIERCE COUNTY MEANS BUSINESS

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Realigning with our north star: A message from EDB Chair David Moore Devine, Executive VP and Chief Marketing Officer for Umpqua Bank

When I entered 2024 as EDB board chair, a CEO transition was not on my radar. But thanks to the remarkable efforts of our search committee and incredible support from our board and staff, we found someone who hit the ground running and already understands the region and its players. With Michael Catsi at the helm, the EDB is in a great position to

move forward, especially as we prepare for our five-year capital campaign.

The last time we went through a funding cycle was right before the pandemic. No one anticipated the impact that would have on our region. Now, we have the opportunity once again to really look at what the vision is for economic development in Tacoma-Pierce County for the next five years and what we want to accomplish as a community.

Initial feedback from interviews with investors and stakeholders to help identify the region's economic needs is already proving beneficial. With a new CEO who brings additional perspective, a new campaign that will capture what business leaders and the community are looking for from our organization, and incoming Board Chair Bett Lucas helping move our vision forward, 2025 is a good time for the EDB to realign with its north star.



2024 at a glance

Year-end is a time to reflect, take stock and celebrate the work the EDB does to help create new jobs and grow the South Sound economy.

[Read more](#)



EDB 2025 Annual Meeting registration is open

Reserve your spot for the 2025 EDB Annual Meeting on Feb. 26 at the Greater Tacoma Convention Center.

[Read more](#)



Virginia Mason Franciscan Health launches inclusive healthcare academy

The first-of-its-kind healthcare career pathway is designed specifically for individuals who are traditionally underserved in the workforce.

[Read more](#)



Celebrate, give and support small businesses this holiday season

The EDB has some great suggestions to get you in the holiday spirit, including things you can do, where you can shop and ways to help those in need.

[Read more](#)

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!



2025 EDB ANNUAL MEETING

NEWS BRIEFS

Commerce launches gap closure loan program

The new loan program is designed to help businesses with Small Business Administration (SBA) 504 interim loans qualify for “gap” financing.

[Read more](#)

Applications open for 2025 Conservation Futures Grants

Funded through the Conservation Futures Tax Levy, the program provides essential support for preserving Pierce County’s open spaces.

[Read more](#)

State broadband office opens applications for \$1.2B in federal funding

Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) funding aims to bridge the digital divide in communities throughout Washington.

[Read more](#)

New resources help pave the way to clean energy funds

Two new Washington State Department of Commerce programs will connect state entities with federal clean energy and climate funding opportunities.

Horizons Economic Forecast 2025, Jan. 29

The annual breakfast event will feature insights from local and regional business leaders as well as leading economists who will discuss our

Learn about the Women-Owned Small Business Certification Program

This free virtual session offers information about federal contracting opportunities offered to women-owned businesses in Washington state once

[Read more](#)

local, regional and national economies.

[Read more](#)

they are part of the Women-Owned Small Business Federal Contract program.

[Read more](#)

NEWS

[Tacoma emerges as nation's third-strongest office submarket](#)

[Fraudulent notices targeting Washington businesses](#)

[COPE Health Solutions announces academic partnership with UPS](#)

[Washington Employer Survey shows cautious optimism](#)

[Chamber spotlights impact, awards, scholarships at annual meeting](#)

[Campfire Coffee thinks about environment at every step](#)

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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