

PIERCE COUNTY
WASHINGTON, USA

edb | **ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
BOARD** TACOMA
PIERCE COUNTY

ONWARD

PIERCE COUNTY MEANS BUSINESS

January 2025 | No. 296 | ChooseTacomaPierce.org



Grateful for the past, ready for the future: A message from EDB chair Bett Lucas, SVP Commercial, SeaPort Sound Terminal

Last year was one of significant change and excitement at the EDB. We underwent an extensive hiring process and welcomed our new CEO, Michael Catsi, who brings a bold and inspiring vision to the EDB. As the incoming chair, I am honored to support Michael and our investors as we look toward the future. Change can be challenging, but it is also beneficial.

Going into 2025, one thing that will remain unchanged are the EDB's goals. We want Tacoma-Pierce County to thrive and be the economic gem of Washington state. Our aim is to provide businesses with certainty, innovation and opportunities for growth. We aspire to think big and translate our vision into real economic prosperity for everyone in Tacoma-Pierce County.

We have already launched our Capital Campaign and are preparing for our Annual Meeting. We greatly appreciate your support, which helps ensure a vibrant future for the EDB. We are also excited about our January 14 meet-and-greet for current and potential investors at El Gaucho.

At the EDB, we have the opportunity to not just celebrate our past, but to boldly step into the future. We are grateful for what has come before and ready for what lies ahead. Join us.



A challenging 2025 legislative session ahead

When the 2025 Washington State Legislative Session convenes Jan. 13, lawmakers will have their work cut out for them.

[Read more](#)



EDB 2025 Annual Meeting: Clarify your story and amplify your impact

The [2025 EDB Annual Meeting](#) is fast approaching. Reserve your spot today and join hundreds of business and civic leaders on Feb. 26

[Read more](#)



New year, new Business Retention and Expansion goals

Primary businesses are the backbone of the South Sound economy, and the [Economic Development Board for Tacoma-Pierce County](#) is going the distance to support their success and ensure they stay here and grow.

[Read more](#)



Free ScaleUp Business Training begins in January

Are you ready to take your business to the next level? The EDB is partnering with the Washington State Department of Commerce to offer three nine-week training courses beginning in January.

[Read more](#)

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!



2025 EDB ANNUAL MEETING

NEWS BRIEFS

Steering Committee unanimously approves Tideflats Subarea Plan

The recommendation for adoption marks the culmination of seven years of collaborative planning between City of Tacoma, Puyallup Tribe of Indians, Port of Tacoma, Pierce County and City of Fife.

[Read more](#)

Doing business with the state of Washington webinar, Jan. 16

Join the Washington State Department of Enterprise Services for a virtual conversation with procurement professionals who can offer information and insight on state contracting practices and opportunities.

[Read more](#)

2025 Lens of Equity Summit, Feb. 20

The second annual gathering will bring together leaders, community members and advocates to engage in critical conversations and actionable strategies for advancing equity across Pierce County.

[Read more](#)

New state certification fosters small business participation in public works contracting

Washington State Export Voucher Program (STEP grant) reminder

Have you made your travel business development plans for

MyFreeTaxes Self-Employed Tax Guide

Tax season is here. To help more self-employed small business owners easily and accurately file their taxes for free, United Way

In October, Washington State Office of Minority & Women's Business Enterprises (OMWBE) state certified firms were automatically certified as Public Works Small Business Enterprise (PWSBE). The new certification also grants business access to a statewide small works roster where public agencies look for qualified vendors.

[Read more](#)

2025? Washington companies that export may qualify for up to \$10,000 annually to cover expenses such as trade show fees, shipping demo products overseas and more.

[Read more](#)

created a guide in partnership with the IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program.

[Read more](#)

NEWS

[Boeing resumes production of 737 MAX](#)

[UW Tacoma enrollment is up](#)

[Puyallup industrial property sells for \\$12.5M](#)

[Sounders draw big names in 2025 Club World Cup matches](#)

[South Sound leaders share secrets of success](#)

[Turkish carrier Pegasus orders 100 Boeing Max Planes](#)

Team With Us

253.383.4726

info@edbtacomapierce.org

ChooseTacomaPierce.org



This email was sent to {{ contact.EMAIL }} You received this email because you are registered with Economic Development Board for Tacoma-Pierce County

NOT A SUBSCRIBER? [Sign up](#) for Onward to learn more about building a business in Pierce County

[Unsubscribe here](#)

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

© 2025 Economic Development Board for Tacoma-Pierce County