



Chez Lafayette – Mike de Alwis

After a decade of success operating the Bourbon Street Creole Kitchen in Puyallup, the de Alwis family opened a second restaurant, Chez Lafayette Creole Brasserie, in downtown Tacoma. The remodel of the 3,500 square foot space added a main bar in front and expanded the kitchen, which was outfitted with all new equipment. With its thoughtful design and amenities, the restaurant enhances the neighborhood's appeal and supports urban revitalization in downtown Tacoma.



Emergency Food Network Warehouse – Emergency Food Network, Korsmo, and BCRA

Korsmo Construction, in partnership with BCRA Design, built the Greens Warehouse for Emergency Food Network (EFN) in Lakewood. This 21,600-square-foot pre-engineered metal facility serves as the central storage and distribution hub for emergency programs in Pierce County. With a capacity for nearly 1,800 pallets, the \$8.37 million warehouse significantly enhances EFN's ability to procure and distribute food, improving operational efficiency to meet growing community needs.



Homeostasis – Climate Tech Investment

Homeostasis is a Tacoma-based climate tech startup that captures carbon from the air to make graphite, a raw material used in EV batteries and other components for the net-zero transition. Turning carbon captured from the atmosphere into valuable raw industrial materials has impacts in the both technology and manufacturing sectors. The company secured \$700,000 in grant funding to scale its business. Homeostasis is a success story from the 2022-23 Tacoma Maritime Innovation Incubator which was partially supported by the Small Business Innovation Fund. This demonstrates the power of local entrepreneurial investment.



Job Skills Program – Impact WA and Clover Park Technical College

Washington's Job Skills Program (JSP) provides training to meet employers' specific needs. This tool enhances economic growth and workforce competitiveness. Instructors provide training to new and current employees at work or in a classroom. The JSP program offsets the costs of employee training by providing matching funds to cover the costs of customized employee training on site or at CPTC. This program has secured over \$1M in job skills funding for Pierce County businesses to elevate and upskill talent.



J Squared Investments – Office Space Investment in Downtown Tacoma

J Squared is playing a pivotal role in the revitalization of downtown Tacoma through its significant investment in modern office spaces. These state-of-the-art facilities are designed to meet the evolving needs of businesses, offer flexible layouts, and upscale amenities. While incorporating historic architecture, the facilities provide much-needed infrastructure for companies looking to establish or expand their presence in Tacoma and contribute to the area's urban invigoration. By attracting businesses and professionals, J Squared reinforces Tacoma's position as a hub for commerce and innovation. Projects include the Rhodes Center Complex, the Commerce Building, and the Broadway Building.



Mountain Construction Office Building – Mountain Construction

Founded in 1978, Mountain has over four decades of serving the South Sound, specializing in high quality commercial, industrial, institutional, metal buildings, and renovations. Mountain Construction recently unveiled its new headquarters at 3411 90th Street S in Lakewood. The 33,173-square-foot state-of-the-art facility features a multi-purpose warehouse and modern offices, reflecting the company's commitment to quality and innovation. This project strengthens the local economy and provides a striking architectural addition to the area.



Partnership for Health Innovation – MultiCare, PLU and WSU

Pacific Lutheran University is home to a new health education and care district in Parkland, Washington, powered by PLU, MultiCare, and Washington State University's Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine. This collaborative partnership will work to address health care access inequities and shortages of health care professionals in Pierce County and beyond. The new facility, called MultiCare Medical Center at Pacific Lutheran University, creates opportunities for health science students from PLU and the WSU College of Medicine to learn from expert providers while providing high-quality, culturally appropriate outpatient services to the almost 200,000 people in and around Central Pierce County.



Patricia "Pat" Beard – City of Tacoma

Patricia Beard, appointed Interim Director of Tacoma's Community and Economic Development Department in June 2024, oversaw strategies for neighborhood revitalization, business growth, arts, and housing initiatives. With 34+ years of public and non-profit sector experience, she has influenced small business support, environmental justice, and placemaking. With the City of Tacoma since 2013, Pat led the development of Tacoma's Green Economy Strategy and collaborated with Planning and Development Services. Pat retired January 1, 2025.



Sekisui Aerospace - Climate Tech Investment and Workforce Expansion

Sekisui Aerospace is making significant strides in climate technology through strategic investments aimed at reducing environmental impact. The company's initiatives focus on integrating sustainable practices within its manufacturing processes and innovating advanced composite materials for the aerospace industry. As part of their expansion, Sekisui is creating 400 new, high-quality jobs in its Sumner and Renton locations, promoting economic development while addressing the urgent need for climate resilience. This investment solidifies Sekisui's position as a leader in climate-tech innovation and reinforces Pierce County's role in fostering sustainable industries.



Tacoma Blue Edge Network – City of Tacoma, Tacoma Edge Network & Maritime Blue

5G Open Innovation Lab, EDGE Cluster, Washington Maritime Blue and the City of Tacoma along with a coalition of partners unveiled a 5G Private Network at Tacoma Tideflats supporting five enterprise clients. This landmark pilot project showcases the potential of a 5G innovation ecosystem as an enabler for business modernization. The project provides initial network coverage for five enterprise clients while leveraging existing infrastructure, including floodlights and utility poles, to optimize cost and effort.