



Whitman County Economic Development Informational Meeting

November 6, 2024
11:45 am – 1:30 pm
The Center, Colfax

Economic Development Informational Meetings (EDIMs) are updates on the Port's implementation of the ADO's economic development plan. No business or official actions will be taken by the Port Commissioners.

Agenda

1. **Welcome and Introductions** – 12:00 pm
2. **2024 Economic Development Plan**
 - a. **Small Business Development**
 - Business Testimonial and Upcoming Business Training – Juan Garcia, Washington Small Business Development Center (SBDC) **(Exhibit 1)**
 - b. **Economic Profiling**

Whitman County Trends Site – Dr. Patrick Jones, Eastern Washington University **(Exhibit 2)**
 - c. **Existing Business Retention & Expansion**
 - Update on Business Outreach Activities
 - d. **Business Recruitment/Marketing & Advertising**
 - Update on Recent and/or New Business Leads **(Exhibit 3)**
 - e. **Site & Infrastructure**
 - St. Elmo Feasibility Study Update – Mayor Tim Sievers, City of Palouse
 - Whitman County Site Reuse & Revitalization Program – Ward McDonald, Haley & Aldrich
 - f. **Economic Development Advocacy**
 - Palouse Scenic Byway Video Project – Alexis Foran, Pullman Chamber of Commerce & Dan Walker, Dan Walker Productions
 - Federal Funds Grant Writing Assistance Program **(Exhibit 4)**
3. **Future Meeting Topics and Closing**

Washington SBDC

CYBERSECURITY WORKSHOP IN PULLMAN



November 20, 2024

9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Location:

Pullman Parks and Recreation Center
190 SE Crestview St., Bldg B
Pullman, WA 99163

Register Now!

Protect your money from cyber scams this holiday season

Join the Washington SBDC for a three-hour cybersecurity workshop to learn essential tools to safeguard your business this holiday season. Learn from experts how to protect your business assets, customer data, online presence, and reputation against holiday scams and cyber threats.

This workshop will cover:

- Spotting holiday scams
- Principles of cyber security
- Secure banking practices
- Storing sensitive information
- Creating policy and procedure documents

This workshop is made possible with support from the Port of Whitman and Idaho Central Credit Union.



Supported by:



Port of
Whitman
County



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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The Washington SBDC network, hosted by Washington State University, is an accredited member of America's SBDC. Funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration, institutions of higher education, economic development organizations and other public and private funding partners.



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Whitman County Trends



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Economic and Revenue Forecast Council

Economic & Revenue Update

October 14, 2024

Summary

- **U.S. employment increased by 254,000 jobs in September; the unemployment rate decreased to 4.1%.**
- **The third estimate of U.S. real GDP indicated growth of 3.0% (SAAR) in the second quarter of 2024, up from 1.6% in the first quarter.**
- **In September, U.S. consumer prices increased compared with August and were up 2.4% over the year.**
- **Washington employment declined in September.**
- **The 2023 Washington personal income estimate was increased by \$8.8 billion (1.4%).**
- **Major General Fund-State (GF-S) revenue collections for the September 11 - October 10, 2024 collection period came in \$68.1 million (3.2%) higher than forecasted in September.**
- **Revenue Act collections were \$38.5 million (2.0%) higher than forecasted and all other tracked revenue was \$29.5 million (16.1%) higher than forecasted.**

United States

The labor market expanded in September and prior months were revised up indicating employment markets are maintaining strength. Unemployment decreased but initial claims for unemployment insurance increased due to inclement weather and strikes, and layoff announcements were down slightly. The third estimate of second quarter real GDP was unchanged. Inflation came in lower and residential construction activity was up while residential sales decreased. Consumer confidence measures moved in conflicting directions but highlighted continued concerns about the level of prices, the business environment and labor markets.

National employment in September increased by 254,000 net jobs. Employment levels for July and August were revised up due to additional data and updated seasonal factors by a combined 72,000 jobs. Job growth has picked up in the

last few months with the 3-month moving average of monthly job ads now at 186,000. Sectors with the largest job gains in September included healthcare (+45,200), leisure and hospitality (+78,000), social assistance (+26,500) and government (+31,000). Sectors with declining employment in September included manufacturing (-7,000), warehousing and storage (-11,000) and employment services (-12,000).

Initial claims for unemployment insurance increased by 33,000 to 258,000 (SA) in the week ending October 5th. The four-week moving average of initial claims increased by 6,750 to 231,000. Layoff announcements in September, as tracked by outplacement firm Challenger, Gray, and Christmas, totaled 72,821, a 4% decrease compared to the 75,891 job cuts announced in August. Layoff announcements in September were 53.0% higher than those announced in September 2023.

Economic and Revenue Forecast Council

EXHIBIT 2

To read the rest of the report, take a photo of the QR code:



The Monthly Employment Report

September 2024

Prepared by Anneliese Vance-Sherman, chief labor economist

On a seasonally adjusted basis, preliminary estimates from the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) indicate nonfarm employment in Washington decreased by 2,000 in September 2024.^a BLS estimates that employment in the private sector contracted by 1,800 jobs over the month and employers in the public sector shed 200 jobs.

On a not seasonally adjusted basis, estimates for September 2023 through September 2024 indicate an increase in employment of 44,600 for the state. The private sector added 26,000 jobs while the public sector gained an estimated 18,600 jobs over the year.

Washington's preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for September 2024 held steady at 4.8%. The unemployment rate in September 2023 was 3.6%.

BLS estimates of monthly job gains and losses are based on a survey of businesses. Preliminary estimates are subject to revision. The August 2024 preliminary estimated addition of 1,600 jobs was revised up to 2,100.

For more information, contact Anneliese Vance-Sherman by phone at 564-900-0748 or by email at anneliese.vance-sherman@esd.wa.gov.

To read more, take a photo of the QR code:



^a Most of the employment numbers discussed in this report refer to jobs, not people. For example, if a person holds two positions, these positions are counted as two jobs in the employment series. In the section titled "Unemployment," these positions refer to individuals, not jobs. In this case, a person holding two jobs is counted only once.

BUSINESS RECRUITMENT - ACTIVE BUSINESS LEAD REPORT

Project Completed or Permit Phase		New or Re-Activated Business Lead	Still Active Business Lead	Business Lead Cold or on Hold	Business Lead Closed
Date	Lead Source	Type of Business	Criteria	Benefits	Status
Sept-24	DOC	Project NLS Manufacturing	700 - 1,300 acres (ideal size is 1,000 acres); minimum 250MW; 3 million gal/day water; 1,500 dekatherm/hour	FTE: 1000+ Capital Investment: \$1B+	No sites meet preferred criteria.
Sept-24	DOC	Project Condor Nuclear Manufacturing and Recycling	65-150+ acres, 57.5 MW by 2031, 164,560 gal/day, spur access to freight rail and/or year-round navigable barge waterway	FTE: 600; Capital Investment: \$1.53 billion	
Sept-24	DOC	Project Frontier Manufacturing	1-15 acres, 6-7 MW, 13 MCFH, 1500 gal/minute, adjacent to rail	FTE: 200	
Sept-24	DOC	Project Oribi	50+MW with capacity to scale to 100MW by 2025, 500,000+ square feet	FTE / capital investment: Unknown	
Sept-24	DOC	Project Radiance Solar	100,000 sq ft, 2.5 MW expand to 3 MW	FTE: 100 Capital investment: Unknown	
Oct-24	DOC	Project Builtwell Modular Manufacturing	60 acre site near rail terminal, water supply	FTE: 160; Capital investment: Unknown	
Oct-24	DOC	Project ASIC Mining	50,000 - 80,000 sq ft building	FTE: 60+; Capital investment: Unknown	

Federal Funds Grant Writing Assistance Program

Introduction

In response to the unprecedented clean energy funding available via the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), the Washington Department of Commerce, in partnership with Hagerty Consulting, is excited to launch the Federal Funds Grant Writing Assistance Program (FFGWAP).

The FFGWAP is designed for Washington organizations and government agencies eligible to receive Federal funds to prepare and submit grant applications, and to help Washington meet its clean electricity and greenhouse gas reduction goals using approaches that enhance equity, innovation, economic growth, and job creation.

The FFGWAP is free for participants, and institutions serving overburdened communities will be prioritized. State agencies are not eligible to participate.

Services provided through this program include, but are not limited to:

Contact:

If you are interested in services email us:
WAFederalGrants@hagertyconsulting.com

or visit our [website](https://www.commerce.wa.gov/federal-energy-funding/ffgwap):
<https://www.commerce.wa.gov/federal-energy-funding/ffgwap>

Grant Writing and Technical Support Services

Federal Grant Writing Services	Grant Writing Technical Support
Proposal Writing and Development	Grant Writing Workshops
Aligning Federal Opportunities to Organizational & Community Projects	Toolkits: Proposal & Project Design Templates
Navigating Federal Rules and Regulations	Reporting Requirements and Compliance
Proposal Design and Project Management	Webinars on IIJA and IRA proposal development

The FFGWAP is supported with funding from Washington's Climate Commitment Act. The CCA supports Washington's climate action efforts by putting cap-and-invest dollars to work reducing climate pollution, creating jobs, and improving public health. Information about the CCA is available at www.climate.wa.gov.