



# Whitman County Economic Development Informational Meeting

January 14, 2026  
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. **2026 Economic Development Plan**
  - a. **Small Business Development**
    - Small Business Update **(Exhibit 1)**
  - b. **Business Recruitment/Marketing & Advertising**
    - Department of Commerce Leads **(Exhibit 2)**
  - c. **Economic Profiling**
    - Whitman County Retail Sales Tax Distribution **(Exhibit 3)**
  - d. **Sites & Infrastructure**
    - Oakesdale Mill Phase 1 Funding Application – Ned Warnick, Design West Principal; Bruce Palmer, Oakesdale Town Council Member
    - EPA Brownfields Cleanup Projects
  - e. **Economic Development Advocacy**
    - Brownfields Coalition Funding Application
    - Innovia Foundation Community Grants Program – Nolan Glueckert, Innovia Foundation Regional Engagement Manager
    - 2026 Legislative Priorities
3. **Future Meeting Topics and Closing**

The next EDIM is scheduled for **March 18, 2026**. Port staff will keep EDIM participants informed if there are any changes to the meeting format.





Washington SBDC & ADO Partnership  
County Activity & Impact Report

County: Whitman

Quarter Total Date Range: 10.01.2025...12.31.2025

Year to Date Range: 1.1.25...12.31.25

Data Elements	Quarter Total	Year to Date
<b>CASE TOTALS (Clients)</b>		
Number of Clients Counseled	23	54
Number of New Clients	7	37
<b>Company Status</b>		
Pre-venture/Nascent	8	17
Startups	6	17
In Business	9	24
<b>CASE TOTALS (Total Hours)</b>		
All Prep + Contact Client Hours	84	309
New Client Hours	20	216
<b>CASE TOTALS (economic impacts)</b>		
Capital Infusion	\$77,615	\$358,480
Number Businesses Created	1	8
Jobs Created	7	19
Change in Sales	\$80,200	\$275,271
<b>CASE TOTALS (economic indicators)</b>		
Jobs Saved/Retained	40	101
Gross Revenue of Counseled Clients	\$3,365,700	\$5,546,071
<b>DEMOGRAPHICS (Type of Business, # of Clients)</b>		
Accommodation and Food Services	4	11
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	1	2
Arts and Entertainment	1	2
Construction	1	3
Educational Services	2	2
Finance and Insurance	0	0
Healthcare and Social Assistance	1	5
Management of Companies and Enterprises	0	0
Manufacturing	2	2
Professional/Technical Services	5	12
Real Estate, Rental and Leasing	0	0
Research and Development	0	0
Retail	5	8
Service	1	6
Technology Services	0	0
Transportation and Warehousing	0	0

Wholesale	0	1
No Response	0	0
<b>DEMOGRAPHICS (Business Ownership Gender)</b>		
Male	6	20
Female	13	26
Male/Female	2	6
No Response	2	2
<b>DEMOGRAPHICS (Ethnic Background - Race)</b>		
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0	0
Asian	2	3
Black or African American	0	0
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0
Multiracial	2	3
White	14	38
No Response	4	8
<b>DEMOGRAPHICS (Ethnicity)</b>		
Hispanic	1	4
Non-Hispanic	15	39
No Response	7	11
<b>DEMOGRAPHICS (Business Ownership Vet. Status)</b>		
Veteran	0	0
Service-Disabled Veteran	1	1
Non-veteran	18	43
No Response	4	10
<b>COUNSELING ACTIVITY (Areas of Counseling, # of Sessions)</b>		
Business Accounting/Budget	0	1
Business Plan	4	10
Buy/Sell Business	2	4
Cash Flow Management	4	6
Financing/Capital	2	7
Human Resources/Employee Mg't	1	2
International Trade	0	1
Managing a Business	3	20
Marketing/Sales	5	17
Start-up Assistance	8	31
No Response	0	0
Other	23	54

*All economic impacts are reported by the client and attributed to the assistance of their SBDC advisor.  
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 (SBA),  
institutions of higher education, economic development organizations and other public and private funding partners.*

**Business Leads**

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
Dec-24	DOC	Project Family Formula	25,000-50,000 sqft; 1-5 acres, high electricity and natural gas capacity, good ventilation	FTE: 20-50 Capital investment: Unknown	No sites meet preferred criteria.
Dec-24	Private	Project Beverage Production	1 million gal/day minimum, 4.8 MW minimum, 11.5 acres minimum	FTE / capital investment: Unknown	No sites meet preferred criteria.
Jan-25	DOC	Project Twilight	200-300 MW; reginery site or adjacent to refinery		No sites meet preferred criteria.
Jan-25	DOC	Project Saline Tech	Clean 30,000 square ft. manufacturing / warehouse space for lease; 1500 gallons / day, 300kW peak demand	FTE: 50. Capital investment: \$750,000	No sites meet preferred criteria.
Jan-25	DOC	Project Mjolnir Fusion Energy Facility	542M gallons/year; 50-75MW	FTE: 200 Capital Investment: \$637M	No sites meet preferred criteria.
Feb-25	DOC	Project Traction Manufacturing	200-250 acres, 30MW scalable to 100MW, existing rail access	FTE: 600-2200, with up to 1000 construction jobs. Capital Investment: \$500M	No sites meet preferred criteria.
Mar-25	DOC	Project Tectonix ICT / Advanced Manufacturing	150,000 sq ft including 100,000 sq ft clean room; 10,000KVA	FTE: 100	No sites meet preferred criteria.
Mar-25	DOC	Project Timberline	SAF Facility: 23 acres, 10MW; Methanol Facility: 6 acres, 4MW; proximity to biomass sources, ports, refineries	FTE: 25-55 Capital Investment: \$100-150M	No sites meet preferred criteria.
April-25	DOC	Project Horizon	80+ acres, 10-14MW with 55-60MW capacity at full buildout, 5M gallons / day, natural gas	FTE: 200	No sites meet preferred criteria.
May-25	DOC	Project Road Candy Asphalt Distribution Services	15-40 acres zoned heavy industrial with rail access, dual access for trucking, natural gas, potable water, electrical, and sewer	FTE / capital investment: Unknown	No sites meet preferred criteria.
May-25	DOC	Project Tangerine Textile Recycling	5 acres minimum; prioritizing former pulp and paper mills from forest industry; 500,000 gallons/day; 400kWh/month	FTE / capital investment: Unknown	No sites meet preferred criteria.
May-25	DOC	Project Elevate Sustainable Aviation Fuel Facility	220MW with minimum 70% renewable energy; minimum 288,000 gallons/day; 20-30 acres zoned industrial with proximity to rail and highways	FTE / capital investment: Unknown	No sites meet preferred criteria.
Aug-25	DOC	Project Powder Path Nutrition Food Expansion	50,000-100,000 square foot facility with temperature-sensitive capabilities, easy logistics access, and operational flexibility	FTE / capital investment: Unknown	No sites meet preferred criteria.
Sep-25	DOC	Project NOVA Manufacturing	250,000 square feet, 10-20 acres, 6M kWh power / year and 50,000 tons water / year	FTE: 100 Capital investment: \$40-50M	Site submitted to Department of Commerce (DOC).
Dec-25	DOC	Project Atlas	500,000-650,000 square feet, 24MW peak energy. Location well-served by transportation and urban amenities.	FTE: 550 Capital investment: \$229M	No sites meet preferred criteria.
Dec-25	DOC	Project EquipmentShare	5-8 acres industrial property with equipment rental / sales / service permitted use	FTE: 10-50 Capital investment: \$3M+	Developing site proposal.
Dec-25	DOC	Project ClimateForge	50-80 acres need; 550,000–700,000 sq. ft. advanced manufacturing campus	FTE: 1000 Capital investment: Unknown	No sites meet preferred criteria.
Dec-25	DOC	ProjectAlloyworks	Proposed facility will be approximately 120,000 sq. ft. and will house extrusion operations, heat treatment, finishing, and quality-testing functions. Need ability to support high-power metal-processing operations, with high-capacity electrical service and gas supply.	FTE: 150-200 Capital investment: Unknown	No sites meet preferred criteria.

# Whitman County Retail Sales Tax Distribution

Retail sales tax distributions continue to normalize to pre-pandemic levels.

