

# Whitman County Economic Development Informational Meeting (EDIM)

January 14, 2026  
12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
The Center  
110 S. Main St.  
Colfax, WA

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[www.portwhitman.com](http://www.portwhitman.com)

# Small Business Development



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# Small Business Development

## Legend

Persons per square mile by census tract

-  10,000.0 or more
-  5,000.0 to 9,999.9
-  2,000.0 to 4,999.9
-  1,000.0 to 1,999.9
-  500.0 to 999.9
-  100.0 to 499.9
-  50.0 to 99.9
-  Less than 50.0
-  Water only
-  Training location(s)



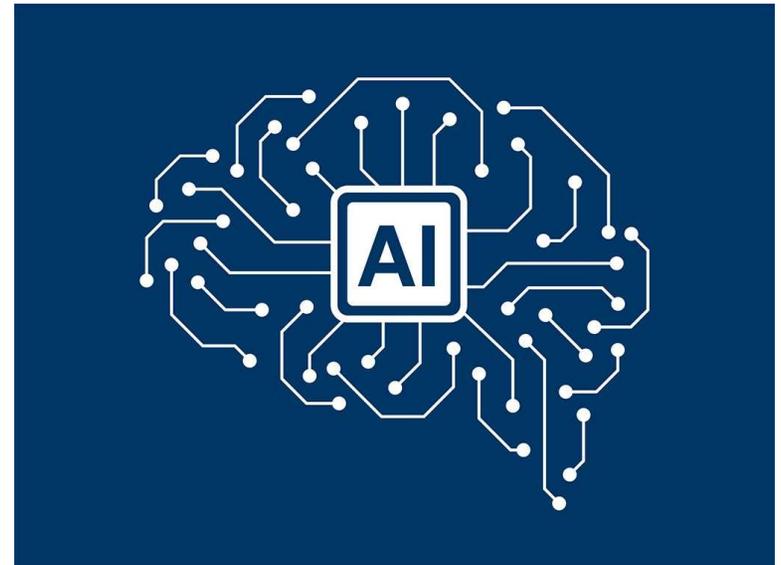
## 2025 Training Locations

*Map illustrates population density*



## Washington Saves

Auto-IRA Savings Program



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# Washington Department of Commerce Leads



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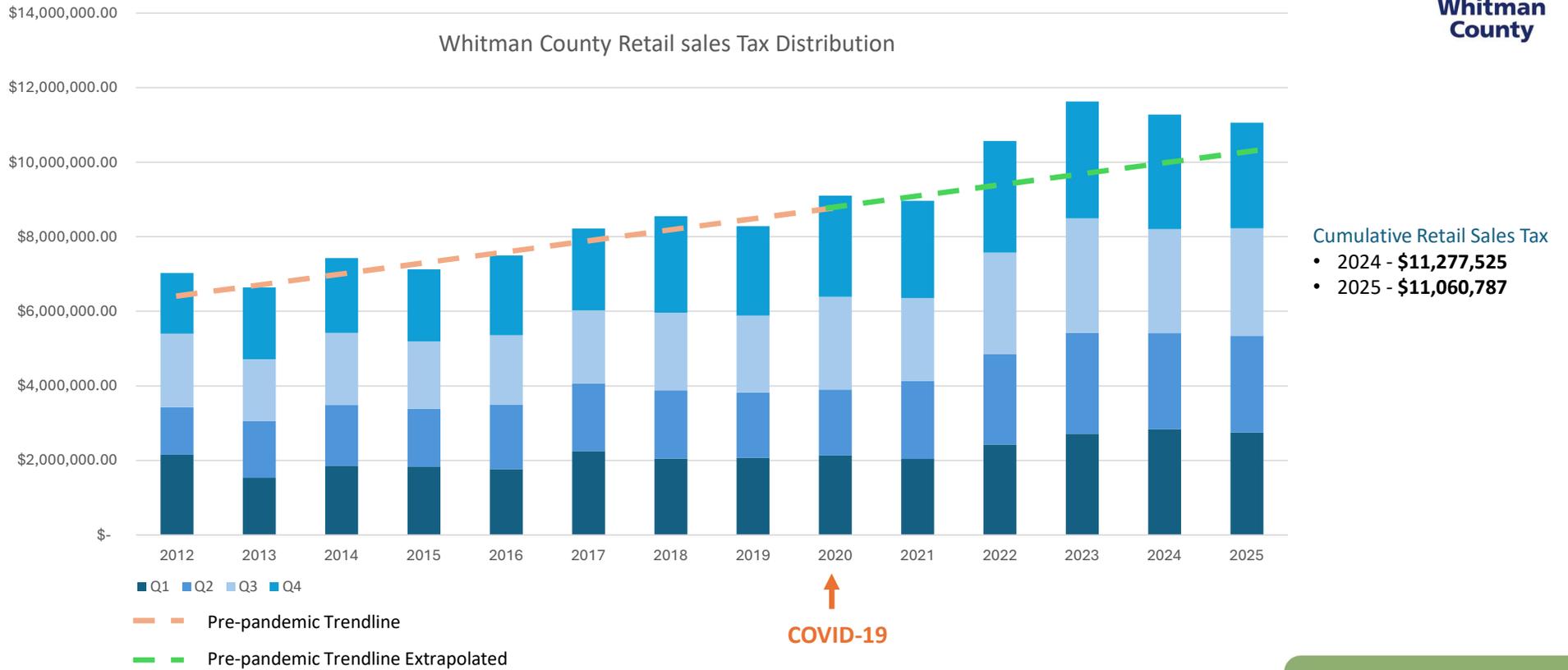
DATE	TYPE OF BUSINESS	CRITERIA	BENEFITS	STATUS
September 2025	Manufacturing (Project NOVA)	250,000 square feet, 10-20 acres, 6M kWh power / year and 50,000 tons water / year	FTE: 100 Capital Investment: \$40-50 million	Site submitted to Department of Commerce.
December 2025	Construction technology (Project EquipmentShare)	5-8 acres industrial property with equipment rental / sales / service permitted use	FTE: 10-50 Capital Investment: \$3M+	Developing site proposal.

# Whitman County Retail Sales Tax Distribution

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



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# Oakesdale Mill Phase 1 Redevelopment

CERB Board Meeting  
January 15, 2026



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# Timeline



**May 2024:** Innovia Foundation & Oakesdale community purchase Oakesdale Mill

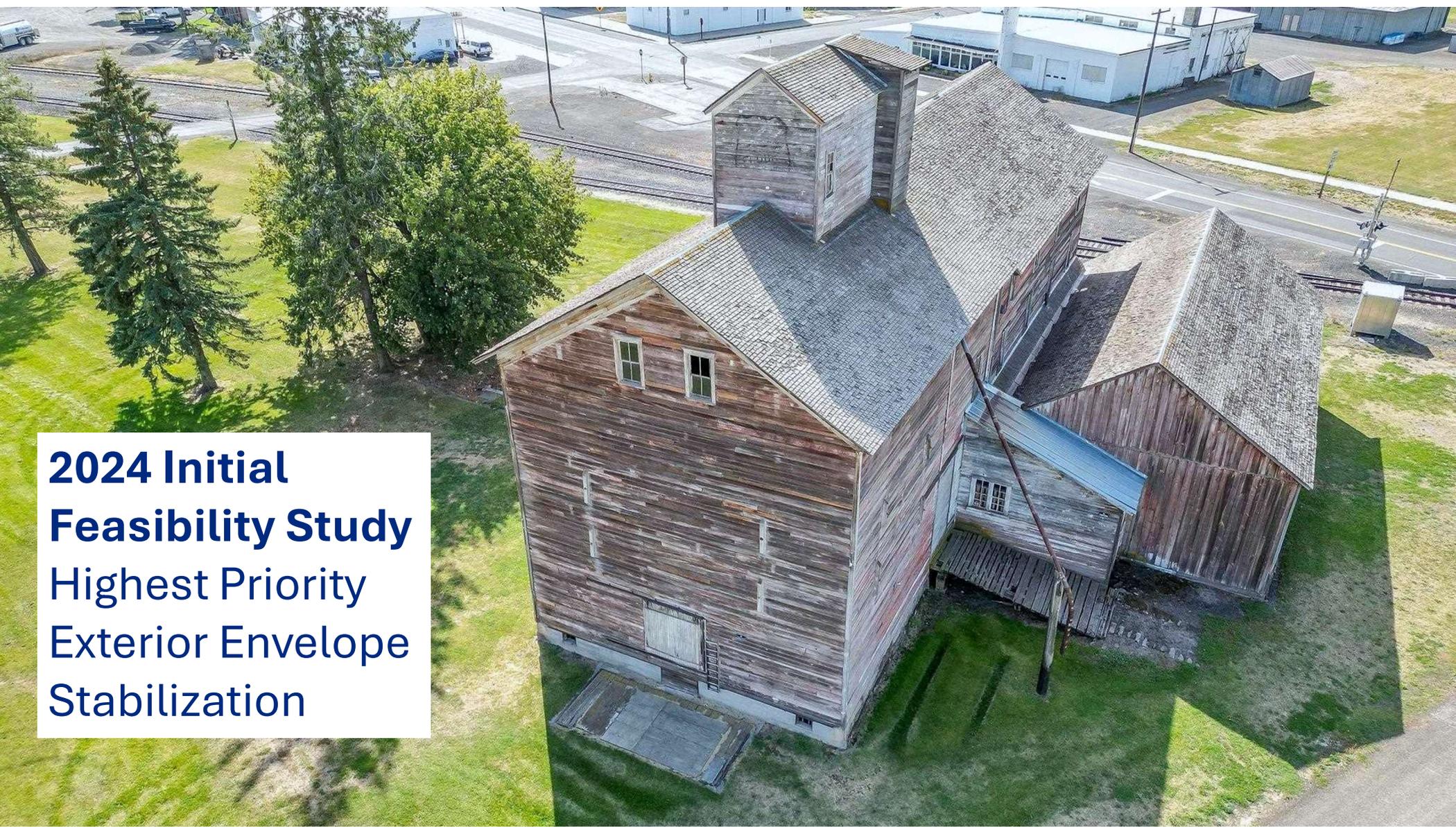


**December 2024:** Building ownership transferred to Port of Whitman County



**January 2025:** Port conducts \$75,000 CERB-funded planning study for property

**2024 Initial  
Feasibility Study  
Highest Priority  
Exterior Envelope  
Stabilization**



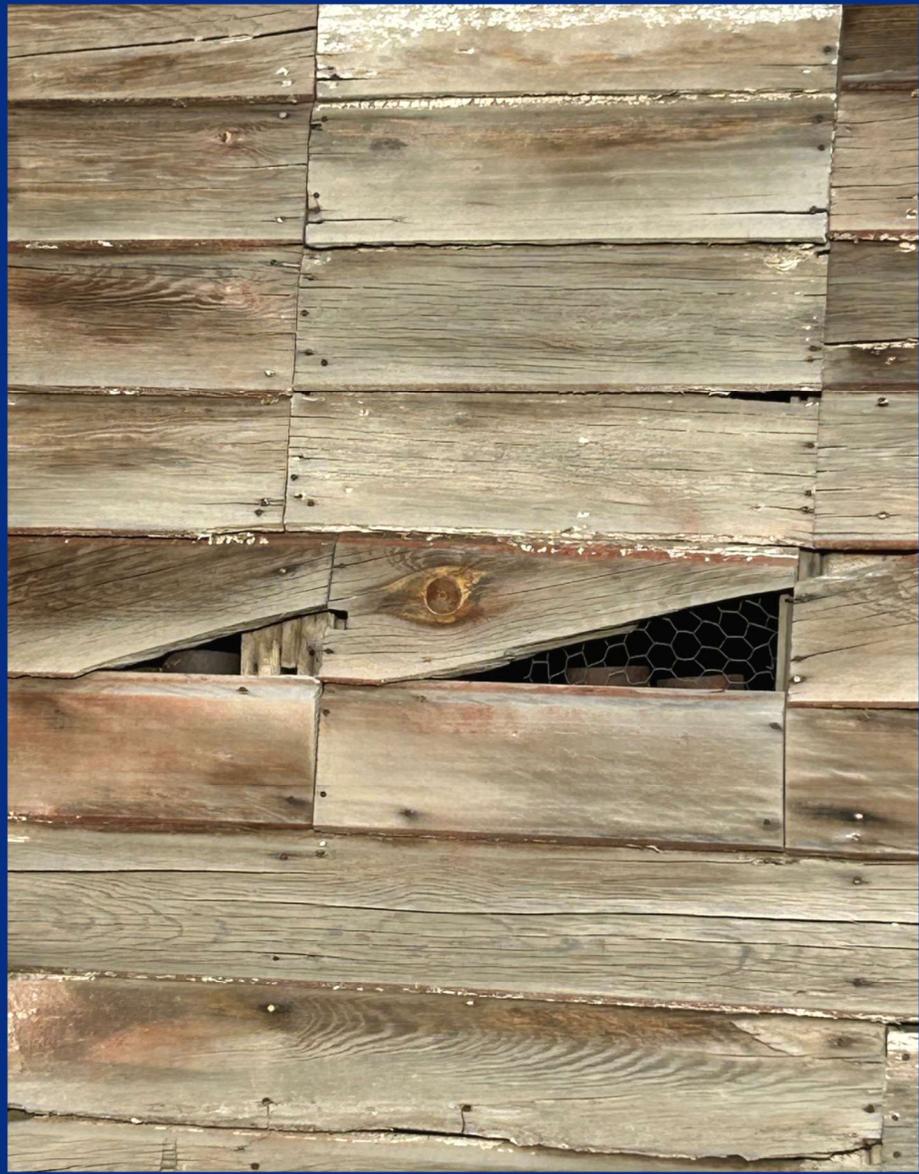


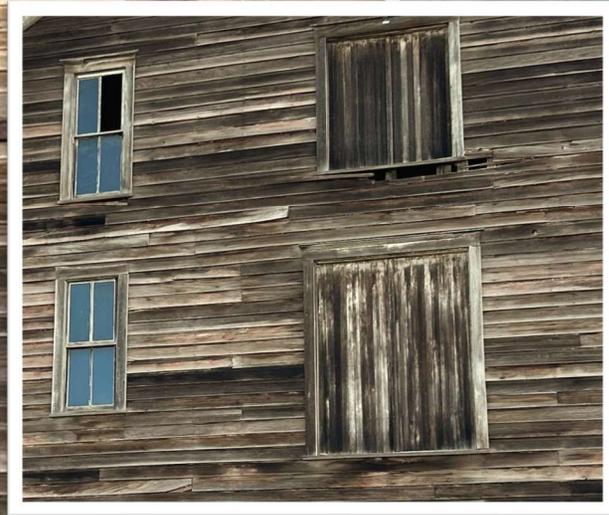
# EXAMPLE: SOUTH SIDE OF BUILDING

REMOVE EXISTING WOOD  
SHAKE ROOFING.  
REPLACE WITH STRUCT.  
SHEATHING AND COMP.  
SHINGLES OR METAL  
ROOFING

REFURBISH, SEAL, AND  
PAINT EXISTING  
SHIP-LAP SIDING

BASIC WORK - SEAL OR  
PLYWOOD WINDOWS.  
AS BUDGET ALLOWS  
REURBISH OR REPLACE  
WITH HISTORICALLY  
ACCURATE WINDOWS





# SITE INFRASTRUCTURE EXTENSIONS & CONNECTIONS



# WATER, SEWER, FIBER EXTENSIONS

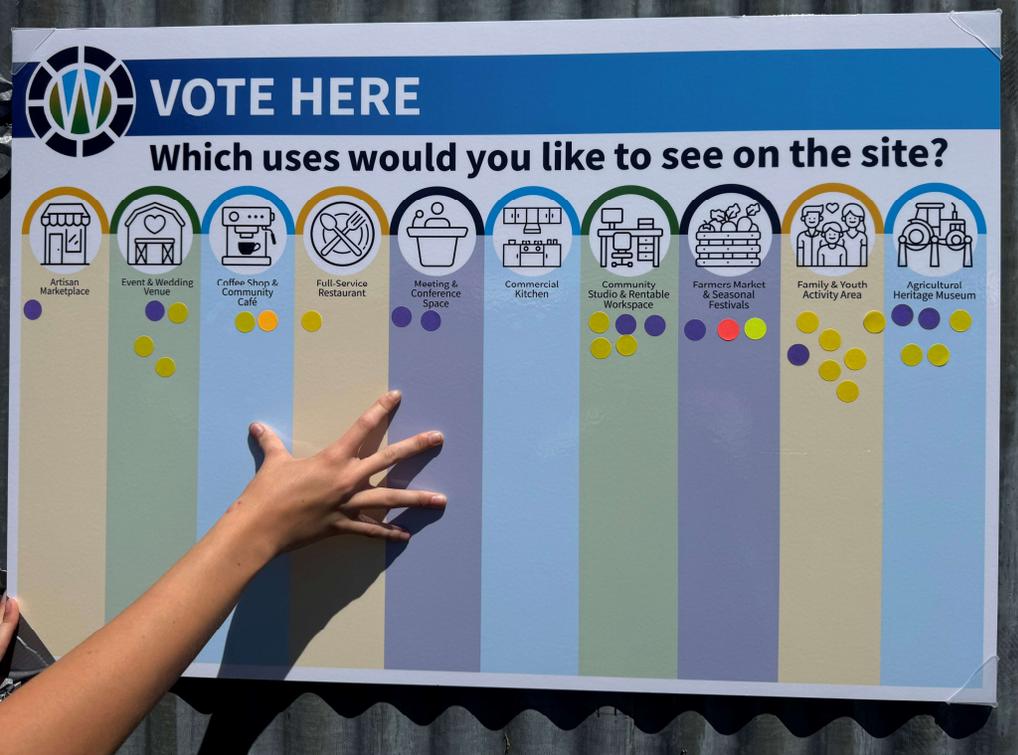


# DOWNTOWN OAKESDALE, WA







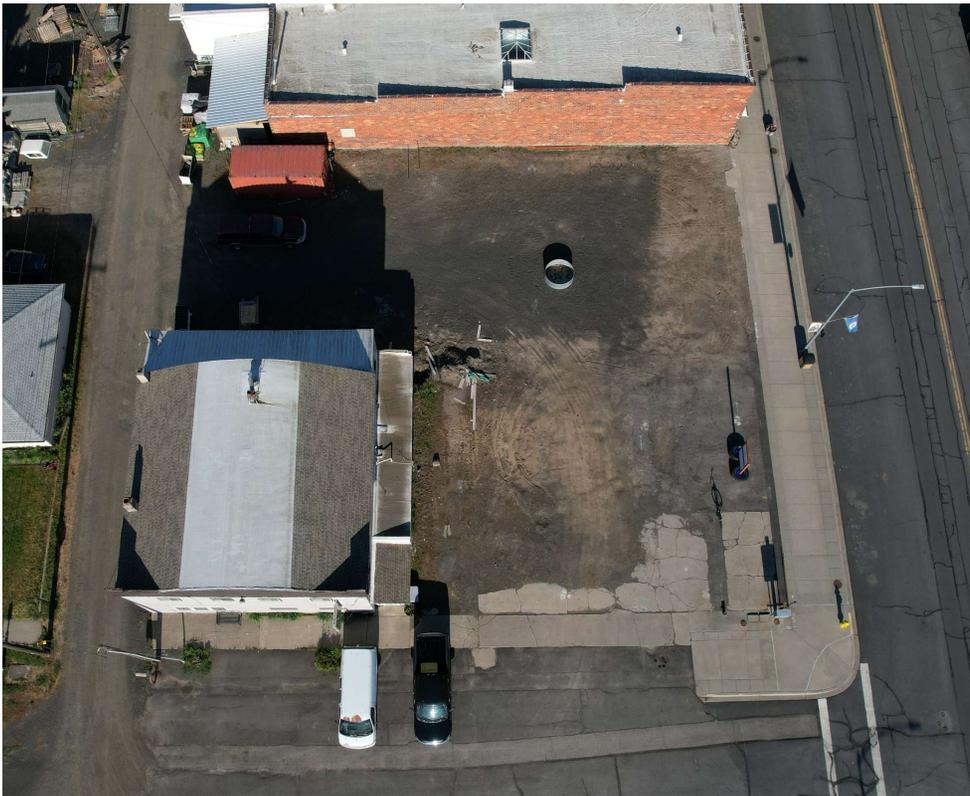


# EPA Brownfields Cleanup Projects: St. John

- Funded



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# EPA Brownfields Cleanup Projects: Colfax

- Applying for funding



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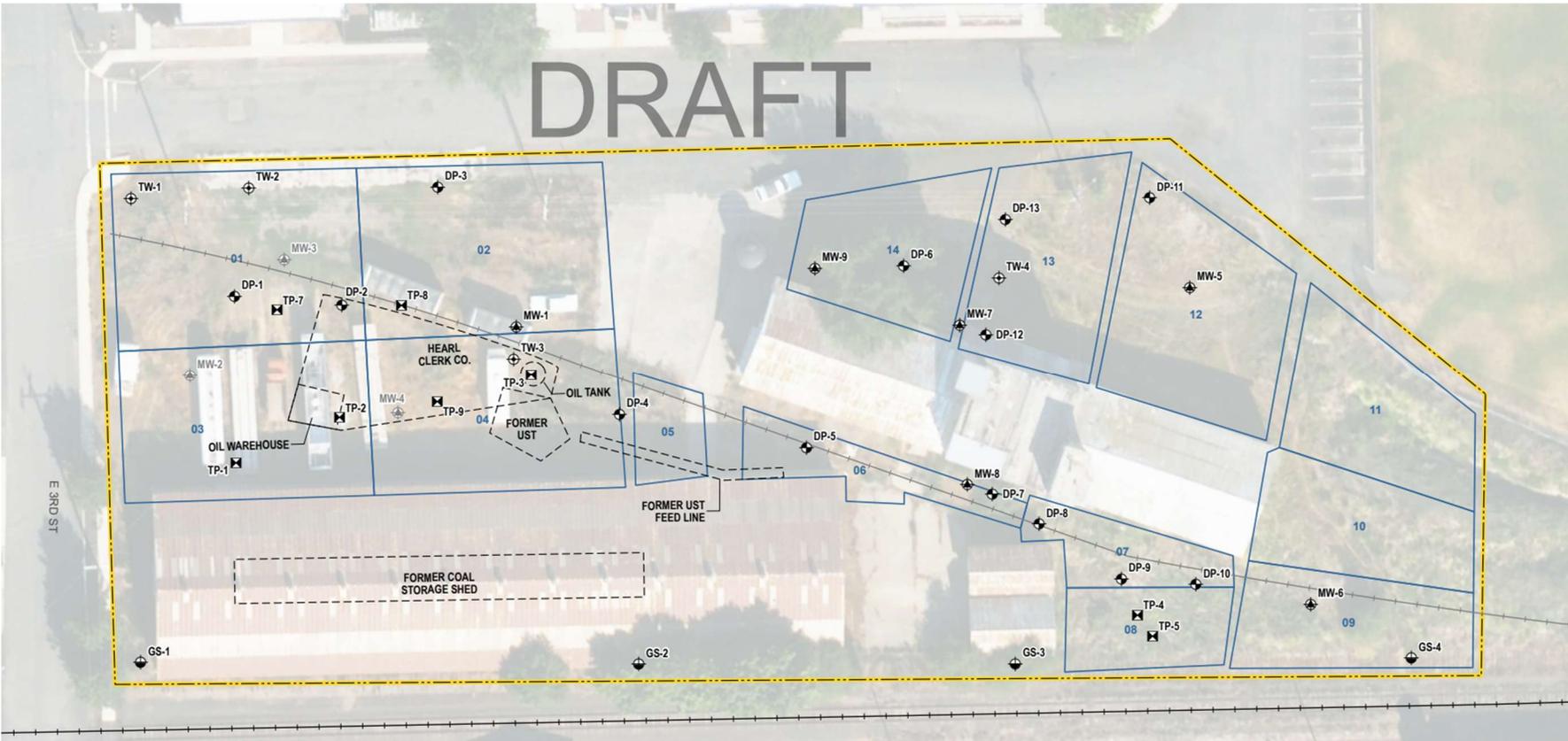


# EPA Brownfields Cleanup Projects: Colfax



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DRAFT



# Brownfields Coalition Funding Application

- Port of Whitman County



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# Brownfields Coalition Funding Application

- City of Tekoa



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# Brownfields Coalition Funding Application

- City of Palouse



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# Brownfields Coalition Funding Application

- City of Colfax



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# Brownfields Coalition Funding Application

- Innovia Foundation



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INNOVIA  
FOUNDATION

make **more** possible

Port of Whitman

January 14, 2025





**make more possible.**

We are a community foundation that connects donor generosity to our region's most pressing causes. We collaborate with partners to drive community transformation across Eastern Washington and North Idaho.

# meet our communities



We connect donor generosity to important causes, not only within our 20-county service region but also around the state, across the country and all over the world. When our donors have a cause they're passionate about, we help find a way to make a meaningful impact.

# COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM 2026

## Building Stability and Belonging

- Over 90 donor-established funds provide flexible, responsive funding
- Supports changing needs and timely opportunities across a 20-county region
- One application cycle per year (one submission per organization)
- Maximum award: \$15,000
- Typical grant range: \$2,500 – \$15,000
- Grant guidelines and sample questions online
- **Application Cycle Opens:** December 1, 2025
- **Early Bird Deadline:** January 9, 2026
- **Application Cycle Closes:** February 6, 2026
- **Awards Announced:** May 25, 2026
- **Grant Period:** June 1, 2026 – May 30, 2027
- **Final Reports Due:** June 12, 2027



# Questions?

Nolan Glueckert

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406-431-0224



**INNOVIA**  
FOUNDATION



# Local Government Coalition

- Key dates:
  - State legislative session runs through March 12 (short 60-day session)
  - Federal Congress in session throughout 2026
- Planned visits:
  - Port staff in Olympia February 5-6
  - Coalition members in Washington D.C. in March



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## State Legislative Policy Priorities Include:

- Improve public records processes
- Avoid unfunded mandates
- Support rural economic development
- Revitalize brownfields
- Sustain infrastructure funding



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# State Capital Budget Requests

- Applications due January 27
- Very few requests will be granted due to budget outlook
- Port working with lobbyist to determine competitive coalition ask



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## Federal Legislative Priorities Include:

- Accessing federal offices
  - Malden-Kenova Bridge repair
  - Rosalia Airport FAA designation
  - City of Pullman MSA designation
- Grant funding requests
  - Sand Road – Kirkendahl Road route improvements
  - Brownfields revitalization
  - Technology Transfer & Commercialization Facility
- Federal appropriations requests
  - Palouse Wastewater Treatment Facility
  - Technology Transfer & Commercialization Facility



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# Closing

Follow us on  
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Email: [ado@portwhitman.com](mailto:ado@portwhitman.com)  
Next EDIM: March 18, 2026



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