2021 Annual Report



2022 CREDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear CREDC Investors.

Do you remember how we left 2020? Weathering the lows of mandatory COVID shutdown, managing the intensity of standing up emergency business grant programs on-the-fly, and riding the highs of events like the ZoomInfo IPO-with a remarkable spotlight cast on our community's ability to harbor growth with the right 'spark.'

Fast-forward to present. . . It is nothing short of inspiring to lead our team through the unwavering business development momentum curated and cultivated by our staff, board, and investor community.

In 2021, we stewarded 34 new business recruitment projects into our pipeline and harvested seven wins. We provided strong support for an additional five companies expanding their footprints in Clark County and consulted with 124 others. Together, these efforts subscribed 1.084 million square feet in employer occupancy, created and retained 2,082 jobs, and brought in \$341.5 million in capital expenditures.



OFFICERS

Chair Mei Wu, Speak Technologies Vice Chair Alan Hwang, Gravitate Secretary Alan García, NW Natural

Treasurer

Lisa Dow, Columbia Bank Immediate Past Chair Lisa Lowe, Schwabe Williamson & Wyatt

> President Jennifer Baker, CREDC

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Bill Dudley, Landerholm, P.S. Brian Knight, WRK Engineers **David Ripp**, Port of Camas-Washougal Erik Paulsen, City of Vancouver Helen Devery, WSP Jane Van Dyke, Clark Public Utilities Julianna Marler, Port of Vancouver Karen Bowerman, Clark County Mel Netzhammer, WSU Vancouver **Steve Hogan**, City of Camas Steve Horenstein, Horenstein Law Group **Tim Schauer**, *Mackay Sposito* High Tech Council - Open

DIRECTORS EMERITUS

Eric Fuller, Fuller Group John McDonagh, Vancouver Business Journal Lisa Goecke, Perkins & Co

DIRECTORS Abe Ott, JH Kelly

Augusto Bassanini, United Grain Corporation **Billy Henry**, NW Association for Blind Athletes (NWABA) Brian Garish, Banfield Pet Hospital **Bryan Dent**, *Riverview Community Bank* Carmen Castro, Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber **David Stuebe**, *City of Washougal* Eric LaBrant, Port of Vancouver Gil Amundsen, TwinStar Credit Union Jake Bigby, PacTrust Jennifer Lindsay, City of Ridgefield Jon Hersen, Legacy Salmon Creek Medical Center Josh Engelbrecht, ToolBelt Kara Fox-LaRose, ilani Resort Karin Edwards, Clark College Lance Barrett, Barrett & Co **Lisa Schauer,** *PointNorth Consulting* Marco Garcia, Frito-Lay Martina Fetter, Kaiser Permanente Miriam Halliday, Workforce Southwest Washington Nathan McCann, Ridgefield School District Phil Wuest, Ginn Group Philip Johnson, City of Battle Ground Rebecca Birenbaum, The Vancouver Clinic Ryan Weston, Mackenzie Sarah J. Fox, City of Vancouver Sarah Laughlin, Fuel Medical Shara Wokal, Riff Creative Shawn Donaghy, C-TRAN Silvio Piccini, Yaculta Companies Tod Tapani, Tapani Inc

2

A heartfelt thank you for all the ways you support CREDC. Your investment in CREDC is vital to fueling these communityimpacting business developments, with 2020-2021 investments yielding \$54 of new economic activity for every \$1 invested.

Through your contributions, we leveraged an additional \$130K in grant program funding for entrepreneurship growth initiatives and secured \$225K in Governor's Strategic Reserve Funds to support two business recruitment projects. We have worked alongside policymakers to share information on industry and infrastructure opportunities in Clark County, including informing the CHIPS Act iterative drafts, participating in the Growth Management Act dialogues, and supporting the Interstate Bridge Replacement project, each an effort that will impact Clark County's landscape and job growth profile into the next decade.

Now, looking back at 2021, we can celebrate yet another milestone IPO with AbSci recognizing its headquarters expansion and trading on the Nasdaq. The message is clear: Growth companies are interested in Clark County, and the work of our investor community to facilitate a favorable environment for business and talent to thrive is at-hand.

Read more about CREDC's strategic work in this report. We invite you to engage with us (even more) in 2022!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Baker **CREDC** President/CEO Columbia River Economic Development Council

ORGANIZATION PROFILE

CREDC believes in the collaboration of both public and private sectors to advance economic growth in the Pacific Northwest. We are committed to enhancing the economic vitality of Clark

County, enabling you to position your business for success just north of the Columbia River.

Our team provides free, confidential services to companies looking to start up, grow, or relocate to Southwest Washington. Each year, we visit over 100 traded sector businesses, taking a consultative approach to help companies reduce costs, save time, optimize talent, and grow sales. By leveraging partnerships at the local, state, and federal levels we connect businesses with resources to help them prosper.

As an investor, you are joining key stakeholders dedicated to creating long-term economic development and sustainability in the region.

CREDC ACTIVE COMMITTEES

- Officers/Executive/Board
- Lands For Jobs

• Nominations

- Finance
- Business Competitiveness
- Economic Development Partners Support People
- Investor Relations & Alumni
- Policy And I-5 Taskforce
- S Alumni

EVERY \$1 INVESTED IN OUR ORGANIZATION **RESULTS IN \$54** OF NEW ECONOMIC AGEN ANSW

*FOR 2020 / 2021

STRATEGIC Initiatives Sectors

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES & SECTORS

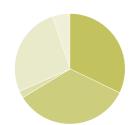
Our vision is for Clark County to be recognized as one of the most inclusive, healthy and amenity-rich communities in the country. As a result, and with a continued focus on growing a diverse base of community-minded employers, talent sees greater opportunity here than anywhere else in the country.

- Expand Business: We support business growth and strategically market Clark County across five key industry sectors that present the most opportunity for the region.
- **Support People:** With an intentional commitment to inclusion, equity, and diversity we bring together stakeholders across the education system to foster skills development and prepare youth for economic opportunity.
- Create Place: We work with strategic partners to advance regional transportation needs and empower communities to define placemaking strategies that elevate Clark County's quality of life.

We work with traded sector businesses of all sizes and industries. Our concentrated efforts focus on five strategic sectors, which have been identified as having the most potential for growth in Southwest Washington.

- Software
- Computers and Electronics
- Clean Tech
- Life Sciences
- Technology Enhanced Production

PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS



\$1,051,658 2021 TOTAL REVENUE

35% Public Investment

31% Private Investment

28% Partner Revenue

7% Event Revenue

-1% Bad Debt Expense

GRANTS

\$225,000 Washington State Govenor's Strategic Reserve Fund (SRF)

\$45,000 Business Recovery and Resiliency Grant

\$12,000 in-kind support from Greater Portland Economic Development District (GPEDD) to update the legacy metals and machinery sector cluster

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT WINS

12 Recruitments & Expansions

Recruitments

5 Expansions

\$341.5 million Capital Investment

> 2.082 New & Retained Jobs

1.085 million Square Feet Subscribed

FUTURE LEADERS PROJECT

2nd year expansion: 6 interns placed across SIX companies

DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT

54.000+ people reached from resiliency videos

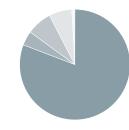
LinkedIn followership growth

67%

Five GROW Clark County 2021 Podcasts

- 1. Patent Pending with Mike Wallace and Kurt Rylander
- 2. Exploring Exports with Will Macia and Elizabeth Dick
- **3.** Scaling Your Business with Brandon Dawson
- 4. Hiring Strategies in Challenging Times: Attracting and Retaining Talent in Today's Market - with Erin Lynch, Raine Lunke, and April Salsbury
 - **5.** From Startup to Scaleup: Tips from Investors with Julie Harrelson and Jon Maroney

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\$890,411 2021 TOTAL EXPENSES

79% Personnel



10% Office Operation

4% **Professional Fees**

1% Other: Depreciation **BUSINESS RECRUITMENT, RETENTION AND EXPANSION ACTIVITY**

129 Unique Business Retention, Expansion, and Support Engagements

64 **Total Active Pipeline Projects**

34 New Recruitment, Retention, Expansion, and Growth Projects

2021 ANNUAL REPORT 8



2021 ANNUAL REPORT



INVEST IN ECONOMIC VITALITY

Get involved at the forefront of the business and policy trends and help shape how our region responds to promote innovation and competitiveness.

- Build among a network of high-profile peers.
- Contribute to industry-advancing dialogue as a local thought leader.
- Elevate your brand and share your story with key public sector leaders and C-suite executives.

CREDC-FACILITATED RETURNS 2019-2021:

	Capital Expenditures (in millions)	Jobs Created/ Retained	Wins
2019	\$114.0	908	15
2020	\$128.0	780	9
2021	\$341.5	2082	12
3-Year Total	\$583.5	3,770	36

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2022

TALENT RETENTION INITIATIVE

CREDC stakeholders are invested in making our talent recruitment efforts optimally relevant and inclusive. To that end, we are hosting informational sessions and working together to convey the narrative of workforce opportunity in Clark County.

DIGITAL OUTREACH WORKSHOP SERIES We will be hosting digital outreach workshops throughout the year to optimize our collective brand presence and complement our talent and business recruitment work.

CREDC ALUMNI

We celebrate those who have helped CREDC become the powerhouse it is today, we are organizing an initiative to recognize the legacy of our founding leaders, board chairs, and presidents who have invested in the economic development efforts in the CREDC's 40-year journey.

BUSINESS COMPETITIVENESS COMMITTEE

The Business Competitiveness Committee's (BCC) works to strengthen the business footprint in Clark County by identifying leads and other opportunities relevant to business growth and development. The Committee supplements CREDC's ongoing business development engagements with on-theground intelligence and shared experiences with new and growing business prospects.

BUSINESS ACCELERATOR PROGRAM

We are hosting a pilot hands-on catalyst program for new entrepreneurs motivated to learn success strategies and grow their business network connections to accelerate and catapult their business to the next level.

OFFICE SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES

As the world moves toward sustainability, more of our resources will be available in digital mediums.

THANK YOU 2021 INVESTORS AND PARTNERS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

VISION MAKERS (\$30K+)





MACKENZIE.







CEO COUNCIL (\$15K+)







LEGACY



PRESIDENT CIRCLE (\$10K+)

Columbia Credit Union C-TRAN Evergreen Public Schools Port of Camas-Washougal Columbia Bank Ginn Group ilani Resort Kaiser Permanente The Columbian

GROWTH LEADERS (\$5K+)

City of Ridgefield City of Washougal Clark College Vancouver Public Schools **Educational Service District 112** Columbia Machine, Inc. Frito-Lay, Inc. Fuller Group JH Kellv JP Morgan Chase Killian Pacific/Columbia Business Center Landerholm, P.S. LSW Architects MacKay Sposito NW Natural PacTrust Perkins & Co **PNC** Financial R.S. Holdings, LLC Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt SEH America Tapani, Inc. The Vancouver Clinic TwinStar Credit Union Vancouver Business Journal WSP WaferTech Washington State University Vancouver

COMMUNITY COLLEAGUES (\$2K+)

Camas School District Battle Ground School District City of Battle Ground

City of La Center **Ridgefield School District** Vancouver Housing Authority AbSci, LLC Banner Bank Barrett & Co **Biggs Insurance Services** Capacity Commercial CFM Advocates **Clark County Title** David Evans & Associates Davidson & Associates Insurance Dollar Tree Employers Overload Gravitate Design Greear Kramer Monaghan, P.S. GTMA Halbert Construction Hapo Community Credit Union Heritage Bank Horenstein Law Group Hurley Development IBFW Local 48 iQ Credit Union Jackson Contracting, LLC JE Dunn Construction Jordan Ramis PC KevBank MacDonald-Miller MAJ Commercial Real Estate Maul Foster Alongi Neil Jones Food Company New Blueprint Partners NV5 **Olson Engineering** Opsahl Dawson Pacific WRO Peterson & Associates, P.S. PointNorth Consulting Port of Portland Riverview Community Bank **RJL Business Services** Scott Edwards Architecture SGA Engineering & Design Silicon Forest Electronics

Skanska USA Building, Inc. Speak Technologies Strategies 360 SW WA Regional Transportation Council The Historic Trust United Grain Corporation Visit Vancouver USA Waste Connections We Work for Health Washington WRK Engineers

FRIENDS OF CREDC (\$1K+)

Clark County Association of Realtors Clark Regional Wastewater District Fort Vancouver Regional Library District NW Association for Blind Athletes (NWABA) Quad Investments

BUSINESS SUPPORT PARTNERS

Cowlitz Economic Development Council Downtown Camas Association Greater Portland Inc Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce Heathman Lodge Hilton Vancouver Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber Identity Clark County Impact Washington Life Science Washington Oregon Angel Fund Oregon Bioscience Association Portland Business Alliance Portland Relocation Guide **Ridgefield Business Association Ridgefield Main Street** Ryd SW Washington Contractors Association SW Washington PTAC Technology Association of Oregon Vancouver's Downtown Association WA Council on International Trade WA State Department of Commerce WA Technology Industry Association Worksource Vancouver