

COLUMBIA RIVER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

2024



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

This year's Annual Report highlights some great wins, despite business conditions that proved to be complicating—like sustained high interest rates and anticipated (but unknown) outputs of the national and state elections. As you will discover here, it was a banner year for CREDC results!

Our business development team achieved **nine recruitment and expansion wins**, resulting in \$338 million in capital investment, 445 new and retained jobs, and the subscription of 343,506 square feet of mostly industrial employment space. From announcing \$300,000 in SRF awards to **Analog Devices** to advancing site variables for the go-live of **Summit Truck Body** in Ridgefield, our 2024 business successes underline that Clark County, WA, is a great place to locate and grow a business. **Vigor Industrial's** expanded \$1 billion contract to scale up manufacturing of MSV-Light landing crafts is a compound CREDC project success, yielding the dividend of 180 new jobs and injecting an estimated \$48 million into our local economy.

These wins for the community are achievable only through consistent CREDC investor support. Thank you to CREDC's annual and multi-year investors for

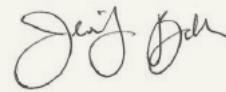
establishing the foundation for staff to function with predictability and confidence!

Along with new and increased investors who prioritize a healthy business environment—Your commitment creates a powerful multiplier, generating **\$34 of business-to-business activity for every \$1 invested in CREDC**. Learn about this work and don't miss the breadth of business outreach by WA APEX Accelerator, hosted by CREDC, or the advancement of our JustNorth campaign. Dig into the report to learn more about your CREDC investment at work.

As our county measures strong growth across economic indicators, we cannot lose focus on our comprehensive goals or the conditions that find us able to attract strong investments today. Inertia itself does not guarantee future growth; and now, as much as ever, we must reflect on the ground-laying work of the past and the community qualities that contribute to our present-day wins.

We are grateful for your partnership and our shared investment in growing a durable and vital economy. There are many more wins to achieve together.

With best regards,



Jennifer Baker
President & CEO
Columbia River Economic Development Council





**EVERY \$1
INVESTED IN OUR
ORGANIZATION
RESULTS IN
\$34* OF NEW
ECONOMIC
ACTIVITY IN
SW WASHINGTON**

*FOR 2021/2024



ECONOMIC GROWTH AND PROSPERITY FOR CLARK COUNTY

As Washington State’s official Associate Development Organization in Clark County, CREDC unites 150 private and public partners dedicated to advancing regional economic vitality through business growth and innovation.

Our team provides free, confidential services to companies looking to startup, 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 and key stakeholder, you are joining public and private sector community leaders dedicated to creating long-term economic vitality in the region. This extensive network of key stakeholders shares a common goal towards catalyzing economic activity, working together to facilitate business successes.

As a business owner, you are working with Washington State’s designated partner for local economic development. Our team is with you every step of the way, identifying resources and making community connections to facilitate and expedite the process. We are here to ensure you are connected and have what you need to thrive in our community.

CREDC ACTIVE COMMITTEES

- Officers/Executive/Board
- Finance
- Business Competitiveness
- Economic Development Partners
- Investor Relations & Alumni
- Lands For Jobs
- Nominations
- Policy And I-5 Taskforce
- Support People

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Our vision is for Clark County to be recognized as one of the most inclusive, healthy, and amenity-rich communities in the country.

EXPAND BUSINESS

We support business growth and strategically market Clark County across the five key industry sectors that present the most opportunity for the region.

SUPPORT PEOPLE

We bring together stakeholders across the education system to foster skills development and prepare youth for economic opportunity.

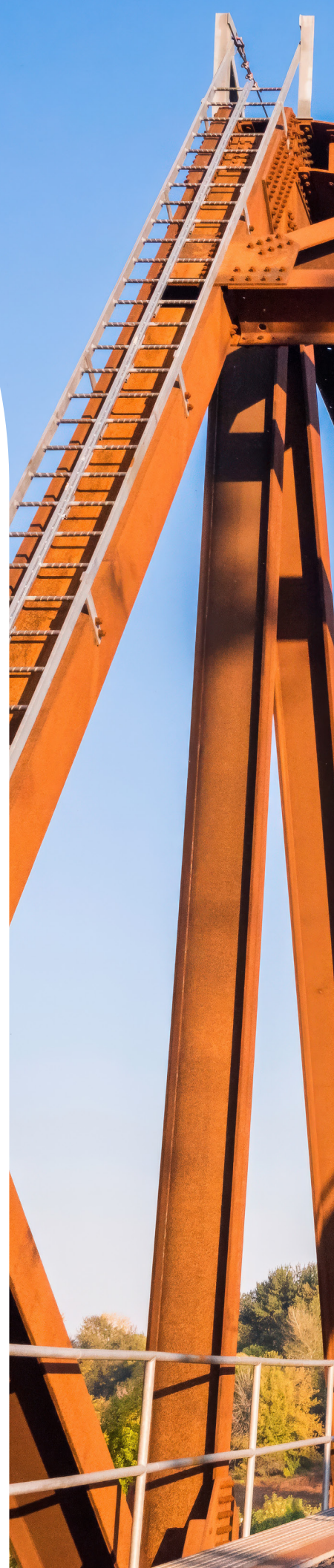
CREATE PLACE

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.

SECTORS

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





**EXPAND BUSINESS
SUPPORT PEOPLE
CREATE PLACE**



INVEST IN ECONOMIC VITALITY

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

- Build connections 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.

2024 INVESTOR MOMENTUM

New & Increased Private Sector Investors (6)

New & Increased Public Sector Investors (5)

Totaling \$29,550

CREDC-FACILITATED RETURNS 2021-2024:

	Capital Expenditures	Jobs Created/ Retained	Wins
4 Year Total	\$1.69 billion	3,926	42

LOOKING FORWARD

01

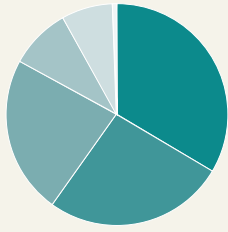
SHARE OUR
COMMUNITY'S
COMMITMENT
TO BUSINESS
SUCCESS.

02

POSITION US
TO OPTIMIZE
ECONOMIC
OPPORTUNITY.

03

CELEBRATE
INDIVIDUAL'S UNIQUE
CONTRIBUTIONS
TO OUR
COMMUNITY.



\$1,226,558

2024 TOTAL REVENUE

31%
Public Investment

24%
Private Investment

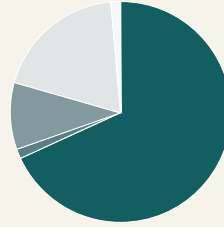
29%
Program Income

6%
Event Income

9%
Revenue—Other

1%
Interest

REVENUE



\$1,128,510

2024 TOTAL EXPENSES

70%
Personnel

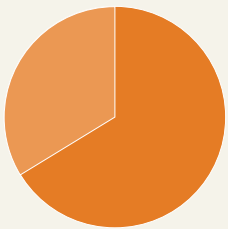
2%
Professional Fees

9%
Operation

18%
Department Direct

1%
Other: Depreciation

EXPENSES



\$812,000

2024 GRANT YIELD
FOR BUSINESSES

37%
SRF Attraction Assistance

63%
Research, Development, and
Demonstration Grant

GRANTS

BUSINESS RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, AND EXPANSION ACTIVITY

76
Total Active Pipeline Projects

35
New Recruitment, Retention,
Expansion, and Growth Projects

FUTURE LEADERS PROJECT

5TH YEAR EXPANSION:

24

Interns Placed Across

19

Companies

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT WINS

9

Recruitments & Expansions

7

Recruitments

2

Expansions

\$338 million

Capital Investment

445

New & Retained Jobs

343,506

Square Feet Subscribed



ATOR
ER 3
ER

LIBERTY

315



WASHINGTON APEX ACCELERATOR PROGRAM

CREDC is proud to host the Washington APEX Accelerator here in Clark County. APEX provides assistance to small businesses wishing to sell to federal, state, and local government.

- In 2024, APEX at CREDC provided personalized advising to 153 new clients and conducted 105 follow-up sessions with established businesses, totaling 312 hours of dedicated guidance.
- Clients served by APEX in SW Washington secured 462 government contract awards, collectively valued at \$24,077,102.25.
- APEX hosted 19 events, attracting 641 attendees.

NEW WAYS TO GROW OUR MARKET

The federal government spends between \$900 million and \$1.5 billion annually across Oregon and Southwest Washington—but Clark County's bounty rings in at less than six percent most years.

With CREDC competing for and gaining the host seat for the Department of Defense-sponsored APEX program in 2023, companies county-wide now enjoy free workshops, networking, and one-to-one guidance on responsibly bidding and winning government contracts—federal, state, and local—as well as post award support.



OUTREACH/MARKETING



ATTRACT TOP TALENT

2.8 million

Views in 2024



SOCIAL MEDIA ANALYTICS

JAN 2024-DEC 2024

LINKEDIN	INSTAGRAM
3,081 Followers	+ 2550 Followers
132,190 Impressions	25.38k Average reach per reel
9.42% Average engagement rate	7.7% Average engagement rate
143 Posts	105 Reels

NEWSLETTER ANALYTICS

JAN 2024-DEC 2024

65 Emails sent	28% Open rate
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**AS WASHINGTON STATE'S
OFFICIAL ASSOCIATE
DEVELOPMENT
ORGANIZATION IN CLARK
COUNTY, CREDC UNITES
150 PRIVATE AND PUBLIC
PARTNERS DEDICATED TO
ADVANCING REGIONAL
ECONOMIC VITALITY
THROUGH BUSINESS
GROWTH AND INNOVATION.**

THANK YOU 2025 INVESTORS AND PARTNERS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

VISION MAKERS (\$30K+)



CEO COUNCIL (\$15K+)



MACKENZIE.



PRESIDENT CIRCLE (\$10K+)

C-TRAN
Columbia Credit Union
ilani Resort
Kaiser Permanente
Port of Camas-Washougal
The Columbian

GROWTH LEADERS (\$5K+)

Analog Devices
Banner Bank
City of Ridgefield
City of Washougal
Clark College
Columbia Machine, Inc.
DOWL
Edge Networks
Educational Service District 112
Frito-Lay, Inc.
Fuller Group
Impact Washington
JH Kelly
Landerholm, P.S.
LSW Architects
NW Natural
PacTrust
Perkins & Co
PNC Financial Services Group, Inc.
R.S. Holdings, LLC
Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt
SEH America
Tapani, Inc.
The Vancouver Clinic
TSMC Washington
TwinStar Credit Union
Umpqua Bank
Vancouver Business Journal
WaFd Bank
Washington State University Vancouver
Washington Trust Bank
WSP

COMMUNITY COLLEAGUES (\$2.5K+)

Barrett & Co
Biggs Insurance Services
Camas School District
CFM Advocates*
CID Bio-Science
City of Battle Ground
City of La Center*
Clark Regional Wastewater District*
Comcast
David Evans & Associates
Fuel Medical
George Fox University
HAPO Community Credit Union*
Heritage Bank
IBEW Local 48
Jordan Ramis PC
MacKay Sposito, Inc.
Maddox Industrial Transformer
MAJ Commercial Real Estate*
Neil Jones Food Company*
NW Association for Blind Athletes*
Pahlisch Commercial, Inc.
Peterson & Associates, P. S.
PointNorth Consulting*
Riff Creative
Riverview Bank
RJL Business Services*
Scott Edwards Architecture*
Silicon Forest Electronics Inc.
Skanska USA
Speak Technologies*
United Grain Corporation
Vancouver Housing Authority
Vancouver Innovation Center
Visit Vancouver USA*

FRIENDS OF CREDC

AbSci
Capacity Commercial Group
Clark County Association of Realtors
Davidson & Associates Insurance
Fort Vancouver Regional Library
Halbert Construction
Hurley Development

iQ Credit Union
JPMorgan Chase
KeyBank
MacDonald-Miller
Maul Foster Alongi
Opsahl Dawson
Pacific WRO
Port of Portland
Port of Ridgefield
Provision Group, LLC
SGA Engineering & Design
Strategies 360
SW WA Regional Transportation Council
The Historic Trust
Tschau Partnerships, LLC
VEXOS
WasteConnections
We Work for Health Washington
WRK Engineers

BUSINESS SUPPORT PARTNERS

Association of Washington Business
Clark County Historical Museum
Community Foundation of SW Washington
Cowlitz Economic Development Council
Downtown Camas Association
Fourth Plain Forward
Greater Portland Inc
Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce
Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber
Identity Clark County
Life Science Washington
Oregon BioScience Association
Oregon Venture Fund
Portland Metro Chamber
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
Washington Council on International Trade
Washington Technology Industry Association

*With multi-year agreements