

# Seattle **JOBS** **PLAN**

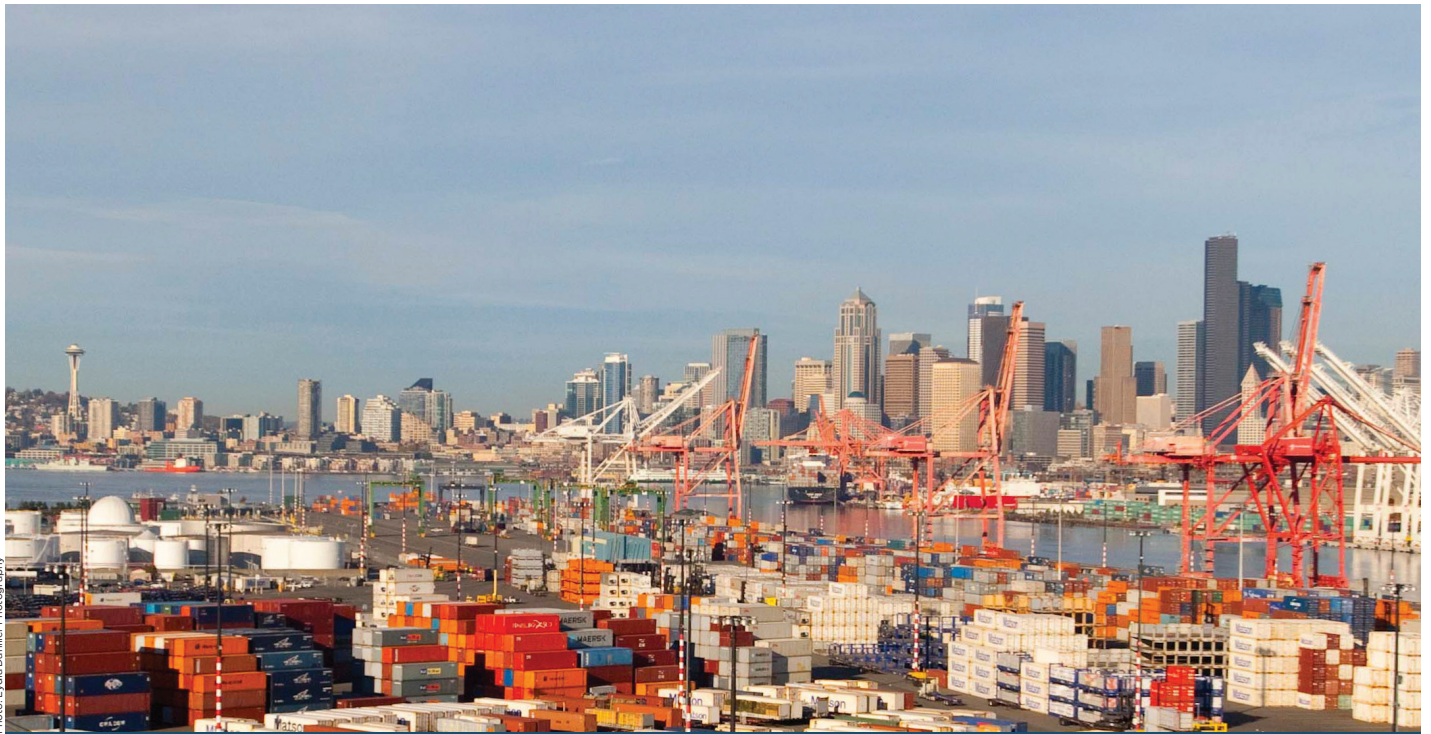


Photo: Lydla Daniller Photography

AUGUST 25, 2011

Innovate. Educate. Build.

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Photo: Seattle Mayor's Office

Mayor Mike McGinn's vision for next generation economic development that creates a sustainable economy with shared prosperity in Seattle was launched in August, 2010.

It consists of new and existing policies, programs and investments designed to help create quality jobs, protect the environment, and ensure that taxpayers get true value from the City of Seattle's public investments. This report highlights progress and looks ahead to future opportunities.

**THE SEATTLE JOBS PLAN IS FOCUSED ON ACCOMPLISHING THE FOLLOWING OBJECTIVES:**

- Creating ladders to opportunity for people most in need,
- Helping entrepreneurs and growing businesses,
- Improving competitiveness by building on our economic strengths,
- Investing in next generation infrastructure, and
- Benchmarking our economic situation and reporting progress.

# Investing in Seattle's Residents, Youth and Young Adults

Preparing Seattle's residents for success in the economy means providing access to quality education and training that leads to meaningful employment.

## PREPARE OUR WORKFORCE

Now, more than ever, education and training beyond high school is the gateway for good paying jobs. Over the last year, the City has taken the following steps to improve connections between the demands for labor and the skills of Seattle's workers to help grow our economy and achieve shared prosperity:

- Developed and placed on the ballot a \$230 million renewal of the Families and Education Levy that will help Seattle children graduate from high school ready for college or a career. The levy includes new investments in assessing college readiness and providing career counseling for high school students.
- Formed a strategic partnership with the Seattle Community College District to double the number of individuals who complete a degree or certificate that leads to a good paying job. The first phase focuses on preparing low-income Seattle residents to fill a projected 50,000 job openings in **business administration, international trade transportation and logistics, manufacturing, and healthcare** through 2020.
- Provided direct training and employment services to 1,324 individuals resulting in 353 job placements and 590 people enrolled in skills training.
- City Light hired a class of 14 Pre-Apprentice Lineworkers in February, 2011. After successful completion of the six-month pre-apprenticeship program, they will enter a 7000 hour Lineworker Apprenticeship Program and be on the path to becoming highly-skilled journey-level Lineworkers.

***“... After three years out of the workforce, I knew my computer skills needed to be updated - so I wanted a program that would help me build those skills back up,” Ellen said. “And the skills I gained in the SJI program were the right skills - what I learned in class I use on-the-job.”***

Ellen Martinez, Seattle Jobs Initiative (SJI)

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Launched Community Power Works (CPW) Initiative to conduct energy upgrades in six building sectors that will save money, reduce energy waste and create new job opportunities. Accomplishments to date include:

- Developed a Community High Road Agreement that will help the program create high-quality jobs that are accessible to community residents.
- Created a pipeline of more than 350 homeowners who have applied to be part of the CPW for Home program, and have 15 homes with completed or in progress home energy upgrades.
- Developed a Community Workforce Agreement that will ensure CPW-funded large commercial upgrade projects create good jobs and new career pathways.
- Leveraged CPW funding nearly 16-to-1 for \$8 million in upgrade projects at four hospitals.
- Completed energy assessments of 30 City facilities, and invested \$1.8 million in 2011 energy upgrades in 19 City facilities.



Photo: Jennifer Richard for Seattle Jobs Initiative

### ELLEN MARTINEZ (PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION)

*A mother of three young children, Ellen Martinez needed to rejoin the labor market to better support her family. After several months struggling to find a job and realizing that her skills were outdated, Ellen enrolled in Seattle Jobs Initiative. Ellen graduated at the top of her office training class and was hired as a Patient Services Representative at Swedish Medical Center in the Neuroscience Department. Ellen plans to pursue a degree in public health and work towards a management position in a healthcare clinic.*





Photo: Joel Gutierrez

## CAROL PHAM (ENTREPRENEURIAL TRAINING)

*Originally from Vietnam, Carol Pham dreamed of running her own business and introducing her beloved Vietnamese cuisine to the public. She realized her dream in 2005 when she opened her restaurant Pho Viet Anh. She had never operated a business or taken business training prior to opening her restaurant. Carol wanted to move beyond using her intuition when it came to operating her business. Carol enrolled in Washington CASH entrepreneurial training classes on marketing and financials. She is now using the tools learned during Washington CASH class to help decide how and when to expand her restaurant. Carol is excited that what she learned during the Washington CASH course helped her to strengthen her skills as a business owner.*

## MICRO AND SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT

Entrepreneurship is an effective way to earn a livelihood and accumulate wealth, particularly for minority and immigrant populations who have unique barriers to the economic mainstream. To support these enterprises, the City invests in targeted assistance for those who are historically underserved by business support programs and lenders. The Office of Economic Development (OED) and its community-based partners have provided:

- Nearly 1,000 small businesses with support between January 2010 and June 2011.
- Over 50 immigrant businesses with culturally appropriate entrepreneurial training to date in 2011. The majority of these businesses are from the East African community.
- 28 South Park businesses with one-on-one assistance during bridge closure and construction.

## LOOKING AHEAD

- Successfully pass and implement the Families and Education Levy.
- Launch and institutionalize course offerings for career pathways in the four industry sectors identified on page four.
- Conduct more than \$10 million in energy efficiency upgrades in the hospital, commercial and municipal sectors over the next year, with the first projects beginning in September, 2011.
- Develop a Community Workforce Agreement to guide the jobs created as part of CPW's hospital upgrade projects.
- Launch CPW's small business program, which will help restaurants, grocery stores, corner stores, and cold storage facilities complete building energy upgrades.

# Investing in Seattle's Entrepreneurs

The City provides enhanced support to Seattle businesses by improving customer service, and increasing business access to valuable resources offered by the City and its partners, including strategic advice, financing, and navigation of government regulatory processes.

## DIRECT BUSINESS SERVICES

- The City and its lending partners have loaned over \$36.5 million in financing to 84 businesses, resulting in 919 jobs created or retained.
- Partnered with the Downtown Seattle Association, ECOSS, enterpriseSeattle, Manufacturing Industrial Council and Washington Biotechnology and Biomedical Association in a coordinated effort to nurture existing businesses in Seattle's key industry sectors. Through June 2011, accomplishments include:
  - o 612 business visits
  - o 361 businesses connected with resources and additional help
  - o 510 film permits processed, including assisting 5 major feature films and over 120 corporate videos and television commercials, which created over 3,000 local cast and crew positions.
- 38 businesses in Seattle and King County are receiving assistance and financing through the Healthy Foods Here program. This partnership with King County Public Health improves the profitability of existing businesses by adding nutritious new product lines and increases access to healthy foods for low-income communities.
- Launched the **growseattle.com** business services portal, an easily navigable, comprehensive, online resource to help businesses START | GROW | and GREEN their businesses.
- Formed the Citywide Business Advocacy Team which includes key staff from multiple City departments to help Seattle businesses navigate government services. To date, over 59 businesses have been assisted with issues ranging from permitting to public safety to land use.

## POLICY

- Developed a package of regulatory reforms to identify ways to stimulate new development consistent with our environmental values and reflective of new economic realities.
  - o Encourage home-based businesses
  - o Expand options for accessory dwelling units
  - o Concentrate street-level commercial uses in pedestrian zones
  - o Allow small commercial uses in certain multifamily zones
  - o Expand temporary uses
  - o Reduce and eliminate some parking requirements
  - o Allow more flexibility in height measurement
  - o Change environmental (SEPA) review thresholds
- Adopted Mobile Food Vending legislation.
- The Admissions Tax exemption has been utilized by 22 music venues, supporting an estimated 330 direct jobs and 6,424 paid performances to musicians.



Photo: Kara Martin

### WEST SEATTLE HALAL MARKET - WHITE CENTER/DELRIDGE (BUSINESS CONSULTING AND FINANCING)

*West Seattle Halal Market is a small neighborhood grocery. Owners Shakir Mohamud and Ahmed Mohamed needed new refrigeration to participate in the WIC food subsidy program. Healthy Foods Here provided the store with new refrigeration, connected them with a produce vendor and provided merchandizing training. As a result, the store has increased the variety and quality of produce it provides to its customers, improving their bottom line and access to healthy foods for their community.*



- The City implemented new expectations for ensuring equitable and successful distribution of contracts to woman and minority-owned (WMBE) firms. All Departments developed a 2011 WMBE Plan, which have been integrated into the Mayor's Accountability Agreements.
- Legislation adopted to allow interim parking near light rail stations.
- Legislation adopted to activate vacant and under used lots in downtown and industrial and commercial districts around the city.
- Implemented E-Plan (electronic plan review) pilot to increase efficiency and get construction projects underway more quickly.

## LOOKING AHEAD

- Adopt regulatory reform legislation.
- Distribute \$45 million in new business financing in 2012.
- Complete financing for the CenturyLink Field North Lot development in Pioneer Square, including a \$10 million allocation of the City's New Markets Tax Credits.
- Secure an additional \$50 million of HUD Section 108 financing and New Markets Tax Credits.
- Expand the **growseattle.com** website to include resources for restaurants and mobile food vending.

***"I am so grateful for the support my business has received from the City's Healthy Foods Here Program. Our sales of fresh fruits and vegetables have increased and we have attracted new customers."***

Shakir Mohamud, owner, West Seattle Halal Market



Photo: Erik Staehaug

## IMPROVED CONSTRUCTION PERMITTING PROCESS

*Every building project gets skilled workers off the bench and back on the field. These are local jobs at a family wage, with each job site that's building 100 units or more employing between 35 and 60 workers. The City had fallen behind in processing permits. Permit intake staffing at the Department of Planning and Development (DPD) is funded by permit fees. When the economy crashed in 2008, fewer permits were pulled and DPD had to lay off nearly 150 staff over two years. It was taking up to nine weeks to get an intake appointment. That was unacceptable. The Mayor convened staff and said we had to do better. And they responded. Today, if you call DPD for a construction permit, we can schedule an intake appointment within two weeks.*

## Investing in Seattle's Economic Strengths

### KEY BUSINESS SECTOR AGENDAS - IMPROVING REGIONAL AND GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

Seattle's economic competitiveness is bolstered by a strong entrepreneurial ethic, robust manufacturing and maritime base and leading businesses in innovative and creative sectors. These key economic sectors are the foundation from which we derive our growth in jobs and income.

- **Manufacturing and Maritime:** OED is partnering with King County to develop a regional program to incentivize new, sustainable investment in our industrial sector.
  - o With King County, we are creating a countywide inventory of industrial firms in the form of a web-based GIS mapping system in order to provide better customer service and facilitate collaborative partnerships.

- o OED is cataloging the regulatory issues and constraints that most directly impact the growth of manufacturing and maritime firms.
- **Healthcare and Life Sciences:** The Mayor has convened stakeholders to identify priorities. Work has begun on the following issues:
  - o Re-examination of the hazardous materials code to allow for greater flexibility in the development of laboratories in South Lake Union without compromising public safety standards.
  - o Mapping of opportunities for collaboration among global health organizations and new business opportunities in the global health sector for non-global health companies.
  - o Construction of a new Seattle City Light substation to accommodate current and future growth in South Lake Union.
  - o Evaluation of zoning changes in South Lake Union with a focus on additional housing development and to meet the demands of innovative companies.

- o Established the Seattle Music Commission, which already has several creative economy initiatives underway.
- o Recruited 10 new civic partners to the City of Music Initiative.
- o Developed capacity of the UmojaFEST P.E.A.C.E. Center to better connect African American youth to entrepreneurial opportunities in the creative economy.
- **Energy Efficiency Innovation:** Seattle possesses the public, private, and research strengths to capture a large share of demand for new energy efficiency technologies, projected to grow from \$300 billion in 2004 to \$700 billion in 2030. Collaboration to take advantage of this opportunity has accelerated over the last year.
  - o Prosperity Partnership completed a regional business plan for developing Seattle’s energy efficiency sector, which has been endorsed by the Brookings Institution.

- o Supported the launch of the 2030 District, a coalition of downtown building owners committed to creating a high performance building district that will drive significant reduction (ranging from 10% to 60%) in energy and water usage and greenhouse gas emissions in existing and new buildings in Seattle’s commercial center by 2030.
- o OED, Seattle City Light, the University of Washington, and Microsoft are collaborating in the development of a pilot project to demonstrate and evaluate information technology solutions for achieving energy savings and load balancing across a broad landscape of building types.

- **Restaurant / Retail / Hospitality:** The Mayor and Seattle’s Convention and Visitors Bureau have convened stakeholders to identify several priorities including public safety, parking, public transit, streetscape improvements, and the activation of public spaces. Work has begun on the following issues:
  - o Formation of the Seattle Tourism Improvement Area to increase leisure tourism to Seattle by advertising and promoting our city as a premier vacation destination in external markets.



Photo: Joel Gutierrez

### WEST SEATTLE THRIFTWAY (BUSINESS FINANCING AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY)

*West Seattle Thriftway needed to upgrade the store’s equipment and restructure its existing financing. By partnering Seattle City Light’s energy efficiency rebates and Office of Economic Development’s (OED) Grow Seattle Fund, West Seattle Thriftway was able to achieve energy savings of nearly 600,000 kWh annually. This is enough energy to power 45 single-family homes in a year. In addition, this loan retained 120 family-wage jobs.*

- **Content Technology Initiative:** This initiative connects film, music, and interactive media with local technology creators to position Seattle as a leader in digital media.
  - o Organized monthly networking events attended by over 2,600 business leaders in the content technology industries resulting in at least 20 new business ventures started.



- o Submitted an extended liquor service hours proposal as part of the Nightlife Initiative to give businesses greater flexibility to adapt to the market demands of residents and visitors.
- o Successfully petitioned the Washington State Liquor Control Board to approve changes that make it easier to open and operate sidewalk cafés that activate public spaces in commercial districts.
- **Neighborhood Business Districts:** Seattle is envied for the authenticity and vibrancy of its neighborhoods. The City has prioritized helping neighborhoods organize strategically to strengthen their commercial districts.
  - o The Only in Seattle initiative has invested \$1 million and provided staff expertise to help 18 neighborhoods execute strategies for business attraction and retention, marketing and promotion, cleanliness and safety, physical improvements, and organizational capacity building.
  - o 13 of these neighborhoods are participating in the Only in Seattle marketing campaign that promotes shopping and dining locally and finding the unique hidden gems in our neighborhood business districts.  
[www.onlyinseattle.org](http://www.onlyinseattle.org)
  - o The City invested \$300,000 to assist the business community during the South Park bridge closure, including supporting the Latino businesses along 14th Ave. S. to form a business association and investing in marketing the business district as a unique Seattle neighborhood.
  - o Partnered with the Alliance for Pioneer Square to develop and execute “Pioneer Square 2015: A Strategy for Seattle’s First Neighborhood.” Major accomplishments include:
    - Passage of the South Downtown rezone legislation to increase residential density.
    - Investment of \$100,000 to help the Alliance for Pioneer Square develop a retail attraction and retention program and organize promotions and events to draw shoppers to the neighborhood.

- Launch of the community’s historic “Trails to Treasure” walking tour assisted by an \$85,000 grant from the Neighborhood Matching Fund.
- o Partnered with arts organizations on “Storefronts Seattle”- a series of temporary galleries and studios in vacant spaces in Pioneer Square and the Chinatown/ID. The program has showcased more than two dozen local artists since its inception late last year.



Photo: Lynda Daumiller Photography

## LOOKING AHEAD

- **Manufacturing:** Solicit “pioneer” industrial development projects that result in increased economic benefit and improved environmental performance within our Manufacturing and Industrial Centers.
- **Healthcare and Life Sciences:** Complete planning for a new electric substation for South Lake Union.
- **Energy Efficiency Innovation:** Execute energy efficiency demonstration project.
- **Restaurant/Retail/Hospitality:** Successfully pass and implement the tourism improvement area.

# Investing in Seattle's Next Generation Infrastructure

Seattle's long-term economic health depends on forward thinking infrastructure investments that support a transportation system with effective alternatives to move people and goods, expand a high-speed broadband network that connects every corner of Seattle to digital education and economic opportunities, and enhance existing utility and energy assets to meet the demands of Seattle's residents and businesses.

## EQUITABLE ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITY

On August 22, the City instituted a new women and minority business program for public works bids, to ensure bidders conduct responsive, good-faith efforts to include women and minority firms in their bids. The new "Inclusion Plan," which replaces the previous Outreach Plan, has new requirements for including women and minority firms and must be submitted at time of bid for all projects above \$300,000. Completion of the new "Inclusion Plan" form is a condition of bid responsiveness.

This new approach offers transparency to bidders, clarity about City measures and expectations, support to primes in their efforts, and an effective tool to measure responsive good-faith efforts. Bids will be rejected if they do not include a completed Inclusion Plan.

## MAJOR CAPACITY INVESTMENTS

- **Build a Broadband Fiber Network.** Seattle is now poised to move forward with detailed planning for a municipal fiber network. The City leveraged an existing project in Pioneer Square which will result in expanding internet services to businesses along 1st Ave South between S. Jackson and Cherry Street.
- **Fire Station Replacement.** Since the launch of the Jobs Plan, seven new fire stations have been completed and five have received major seismic upgrades, creating local construction jobs, keeping employees and residents safe, and lowering businesses insurance premiums, which reduce the cost of locating in Seattle. The City is investing over

\$40 million over the next two years to ensure that Seattle's fire stations can withstand earthquakes.

- **Replacing the Seawall.** The City has accelerated work on the project to replace the aging Alaskan Way Seawall, which supports utility and transportation conduits that flow into and through the waterfront area.
- **Restoring the King Street Station.** The new Jackson Street Plaza helps makes King Street Station a great urban place, connecting transit to walkable neighborhoods and opening up a public space, and will be one of three intermodal transportation hubs downtown (with Colman Dock and Westlake Hub).

*"I appreciated the OED and City Light staff who worked with us to find a creative solution to our electrical service needs in order to attract an additional tenant. The solution met the City's needs and helped to significantly lessen our costs. Listening to business' needs and finding solutions is an important part of responsive City government."*

Jim Ferguson, president, Ferguson Terminal



Photo: Lydie Daniller Photography

### FERGUSON TERMINAL (CITYWIDE BUSINESS ADVOCACY TEAM)

*Ferguson Terminal needed to add additional electrical service to its large warehouse located in Ballard. Due to the unique nature of the warehouse, utility poles, streets, and Seattle City Light policy, the total project cost jumped from \$50,000 to approximately \$300,000. The Office of Economic Development (OED) and Seattle City Light arranged an on-site meeting with engineers from City Light and Ferguson Terminal. Together they arrived at a solution that saved the company more than \$100,000.*





Photo: Starbucks Coffee Company

## STARBUCKS (CITYWIDE BUSINESS ADVOCACY TEAM)

*Reducing waste is one of the City of Seattle’s top environmental initiatives. When a planned recycling ordinance proved to be unworkable for local businesses that offered food and beverages “to go”, the Office of Economic Development (OED), Seattle Public Utilities (SPU), and business leaders worked together to find new solutions. The effort began when Starbucks, which employs more than 4,400 employees and has over 90 locations in Seattle, expressed concern to OED about a new ordinance that required food service businesses to replace all disposable containers with compostable/recyclable food service ware, and provide customer-facing recycling containers in their stores. Starbucks and many other businesses supported the implementation of citywide commercial recycling, but found the legislation particularly challenging for companies that lease space. Under the proposed ordinance, businesses in the quick-serve industry that occupy leased space within a larger building were responsible for providing recycling opportunities to their customers—whether or not their landlords provided recycling services as part of the businesses’ occupancy costs. OED worked closely with SPU, Starbucks, the Building Owners & Managers Association (BOMA), and others in the industry to amend the legislation to require building owners to provide both recycling and composting services to their tenants, or at minimum make space available for their tenants to place their own bins and contract for those services individually. Under the new ordinance, the City was able to successfully roll out a recycling program that reduces waste that also works for local businesses and their customers.*

## QUALITY UTILITY INFRASTRUCTURE

Utility and energy investments create jobs and support business activities and quality of life in the region with reliable utility infrastructure.

- Seattle Public Utilities has invested \$147 million over the last year in capital projects, including over \$14 million rebuilding two transfer stations at the end of their useful lives, and over \$65 million for clean and reliable drinking water for Seattle residents and businesses.
- Seattle City Light invests approximately \$250 million annually in its capital program, including \$76 million of investments in its distribution network. Since

the Jobs Plan was launched, Seattle City Light’s conservation plans have saved 68.9 million kWh, enough to power approximately 7,600 Seattle homes for one year and saved the participants a total of \$37 million over the life of the measures.

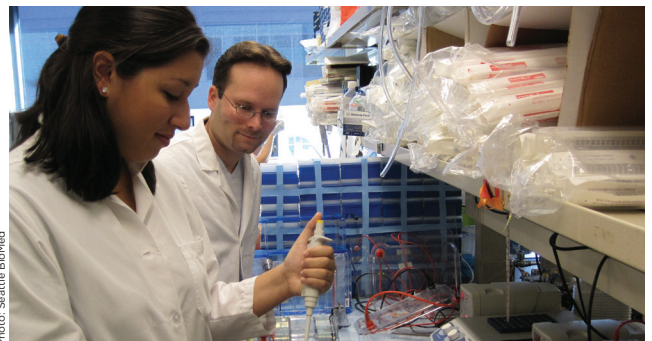


Photo: Seattle BioMed



## WALK, BIKE, RIDE AND TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENTS

A strong transit network connects Seattleites to opportunities for jobs and education. The City evaluates transportation funding opportunities with the goal of expanding access and affordable choices within the City's transportation network. The Seattle Department of Transportation's (SDOT) 2010 Adopted Capital Budget totaled nearly \$200 million, which included approximately \$85 million of investments in major maintenance of SDOT's existing facilities.

- After having successfully recruited one of the first Nissan LEAF dealerships in the country, Seattle has added 35 all-electric LEAFs to the City fleet.
- To date, ECOtality has installed 167 home EV charging stations and one commercial location in Seattle.
- The City's Department of Planning and Development (DPD) made changes to the Seattle Electrical Code that require newly built garages to be ready for charging stations. Our permit streamlining means people wishing to apply for a permit can do so online with inspections available on the same day.

## LOOKING AHEAD

- Move forward on the Seawall replacement project, spending approximately \$15 million on design, environmental analysis, including permitting, and outreach during the next year, with 60% design complete and draft environmental impact statement published by September 2012.
- Start planning and design work to connect the First Hill and South Lake Union streetcars. Identify new streetcar routes to Ballard via Westlake and Fremont, and the University District via Eastlake, in order to provide high capacity transit on Seattle's most congested corridors.
- Install 50 charging stations: 36 serving the City fleet and 14 for public use at City-owned garages, such as the Seattle Center, the Central Library, the SeaPark building, and Pacific Place using a federal grant.

- Make speed and reliability improvements, and implement new services and systems, like rapid streetcar or neighborhood rail across 15 corridors via the City's Transit Master Plan.
- Explore opportunities to expand broadband services to underserved neighborhoods.



Photo: Lydia Daniller Photography

### MEYER WELLS (BUSINESS FINANCING)

*Meyer Wells, located in Interbay, makes environmentally sustainable furniture and flooring from urban trees and wood waste. The company's customers include Nordstrom and the Gates Foundation. Meyer Wells received a loan using the City's Community Development Block Grant Stimulus funds through the City's lending partner Enterprise Cascadia. The funds supported working capital and the creation of 16 new jobs. Meyer Wells now has 25 employees in Seattle and hopes to expand to 100.*

# Economic Benchmarking

The City adopted the Seattle Jobs Plan in August, 2010 with a commitment to measure and report on Seattle's economic progress. Beginning with this dashboard, the City will be reporting twice annually in August and February on five key indicators of Seattle's economic health:

- Business income
- Job growth
- Business start-ups and closures
- Educational system performance
- Distribution of income

These indicators will help us measure Seattle's economic performance over time, and focus our attention on the opportunities and challenges along the way.

Over the past year, we've continued to see the impacts of the national recession, with a decline in business income and overall employment. However, our residents have weathered these national downward trends better than most cities, with lower unemployment rates. As reflected in our new business start-up rates, Seattle continues to hold a comparative advantage through its diverse, talented and resilient people.

We invite you to visit the Office of Economic Development's website at [www.seattle.gov/economicdevelopment](http://www.seattle.gov/economicdevelopment) for complete statistics of the Seattle Economic Indicators.

## SEATTLE ECONOMIC INDICATORS (AS OF AUGUST 2011)

1. Business Income		2009	2010	Change
Business income (billions, 2010\$)		\$51.0	\$50.8	↓ 0.4%
2. Job Growth		2009	2010	Change
Employment		473,200	462,200	↓ -2%
Unemployment rate		7.9%	7.8%	↓ 0.1%
3. Business Start-ups and Closures		2009	2010	Change
New business licenses		7,600	7,900	↑ 4%
Total businesses		55,000	55,400	↑ 1%
4. Educational System Performance		2008	2009	Change
Higher education degrees awarded		16,840	17,130	↑ 2%
Seattle educational attainment (% Population with bachelor's degree or higher)		55%	56%	↑ 1%
5. Income Distribution		2008	2009	Change
Household income distribution by income quintile (Each quintile represents 20% of Seattle households)				
0-20%, lowest earning households		3%	3%	↔ 0%
20-40%		8%	9%	↑ 1%
40-60%		13%	15%	↑ 3%
60-80%		23%	24%	↑ 2%
80-100%, highest earning households		54%	48%	↓ -6%

# Seattle Jobs Plan - By The Numbers

- In 2010, Seattle businesses generated **\$50.8 billion in taxable income**.
- There are **55,400 businesses licensed in Seattle** at the end of 2010, **a net increase of 400 businesses over 2009**.
- Seattle currently is home to an estimated **472,800 jobs**, roughly 42% of all jobs in King County.
- Seattle's first quarter 2011 **unemployment rate stood at 7.9%**, compared to 8.9% for the Seattle metropolitan area and 9.3% for the state.
- From the trough of the recession to June 2011, **employment** in the Seattle metropolitan area **grew at 3.7%** compared to 2.1% for Washington State and 1.4% for the nation.
- In 2009, **Seattle's lowest earning households** (representing 20% of all households) **earned 3%** of the overall income.
- In 2009, **Seattle's highest earning households** (representing another 20% of all households) **earned 48%** of all income, a drop of 6% from 2008.
- Over **55% of Seattle residents 25 years and older have a four-year college degree or higher**, compared with the national average of 28% in 2009.
- For every 100 Washington State 9th graders starting public high school, **only 18 will graduate with a four- or two-year degree within 150% of the scheduled program time**.
- Wait time at Department of Planning and Development for construction permit intake appointment **reduced from 9 weeks to 2 weeks in 2011**.
- The City and its lending partners **loaned more than \$36.5 million** in financing to **84 businesses**.
- The City **invested more than \$600 million in infrastructure improvements** in 2010.
- The total number jobs created or retained by programs supported in the Seattle Jobs Plan: **3,270**
  - a. Seattle City Light and its conservation programs: **361**
  - b. City's capital improvement projects: **1,990**
  - c. City's business finance program: **919**







**Office of the Mayor**  
**Mike McGinn**

[www.seattle.gov/jobsplan](http://www.seattle.gov/jobsplan)  
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