



City of Seattle  
Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor

## NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**

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### **Mayor Announces Boost for 15 Neighborhood Business Districts** *Money will increase city investments in Seattle neighborhoods*

SEATTLE – Mayor Greg Nickels presented funding awards today to 15 Neighborhood Business District Associations throughout Seattle to continue the city’s investments in building healthy communities.

“These business districts are the ‘main streets’ of our neighborhoods and investing in them is an important part of creating great urban communities,” said Mayor Nickels, who presented the awards at a community event in SoDo. “These businesses not only provide local jobs, they are the economic engines at the heart of our neighborhoods.”

The Office of Economic Development received proposals totaling more than twice the amount of money available. Grants totaling \$153,600 were given to 15 neighborhood business organizations.

“The awards we give out today will be used for a wide range of projects, from the creation of marketing materials to sidewalk cleaning, all designed to help strengthen and grow these local business communities,” said Susan Shannon, Director of the Office of Economic Development. “The Office of Economic Development is proud to partner with our local neighborhood business districts city-wide to support local businesses grow and thrive.”

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Neighborhood Business District Funding Awards - Page Two

Some examples of the projects funded include: business district promotion (marketing campaigns, directories, business district summer festivals, signage), and physical improvement and enhancement projects (sidewalk cleaning, tree pit improvements, graffiti removal, winter decorations).

The following organizations are recipients of the 2007 Neighborhood Business District Awards:

• Beacon Hill Pedestrians	\$ 15,000
• Central Area Community Festival Association	\$ 5,000
• Columbia City Business Association	\$ 18,000
• Georgetown Merchants Association	\$ 10,000
• Greater Queen Anne Chamber of Commerce	\$ 9,500
• Hillman City Business Association	\$ 3,000
• Lake City Chamber of Commerce	\$ 12,500
• Madison Valley Merchants Association	\$ 5,000
• Northgate Chamber of Commerce	\$ 7,000
• Pioneer Square Community Association	\$ 20,000
• Rainier Beach Merchants Association	\$ 10,000
• Rainier Chamber of Commerce	\$ 6,500
• SODO Business Association	\$ 15,000
• South Lake Union Chamber of Commerce	\$ 10,000
• <u>White Center Community Development Association</u>	<u>\$ 7,100</u>

Total Amount of Awards: \$153,600

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