Seattle Industrial Sector's Economic Impact

Jobs:

- The industrial sector (manufacturing, maritime and related businesses) supported 121,700 jobs in Seattle in 2001
- Job growth in this sector matched the overall citywide job growth (6.1%) from 1995-2001
- Of the more than 121,700 jobs, 68,800 jobs are in Seattle's Duwamish and Ballard/ Interbay/North industrial areas

Wages:

- Average wages of industrial jobs in Seattle: $50,900, 21% higher than the city's average wage of $41,900

Revenues:

- Seattle's industrial sector accounted for an estimated $28.5 billion in revenue in 2001
- Manufacturing, maritime and related businesses provided the following tax revenues to the City in 2001:
  - Total Retail Sales Tax revenue: $46.7 million (39% of total retail sales tax collected)
  - B&O Taxes: $38 million
  - Utility Taxes: $13.2 million (from Manufacturing & Industrial Centers only)

Industrial Sector Benefits to Seattle:

- Creates accessible, family-wage jobs
- Provides important diversification in our economy
- Contributes significantly to the City's tax base

Seattle's Advantages:

- Proximity to customers, distributors, and/or suppliers
- Derived benefit of association with Seattle's brand image
- Access to waterborne, rail, truck and airborne freight shipping modes that converge in the city

What Industry Leaders Tell Us They Need From the City:

- Improve transportation network and freight mobility
- Streamline and improve predictability in permitting
- Be clear, consistent and firm with regulations and zoning
- Reaffirm land use for industrial areas
- Develop a retention strategy, particularly for small industrial businesses
- Re-evaluate the tax structure and other costs to business

Definition of Industrial Sector:

- The industrial sector encompasses a wide range of manufacturing, maritime and related businesses in the city
- The maritime sector is also highlighted in a separate study
- Nine sectors dominate the industrial sector in Seattle:
  - Industrial Machinery & Fabricated Metal
  - Aerospace
  - Printing and Publishing
  - Stone, Clay, Glass & Concrete Products
  - Office & Home Furnishings
  - Food & Beverage Production
  - Construction & Contracting
  - Transportation & Wholesale Distribution
  - Seafood Processing

The Office of Economic Development commissioned an economic impact study to generate the information contained in this summary. For a copy of the full study, please visit www.seattle.gov/economicdevelopment

April, 2004

City of Seattle • Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor
Office of Economic Development • Jill Nishi, Director

Phone (206) 684-8090 • Fax (206) 684-0379
700 Fifth Avenue, Suite 5752 • PO Box 94708, Seattle, WA 98124-4708
www.seattle.gov/economicdevelopment