ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Seattle is the center of the Puget Sound economy and a leading West Coast hub for the creative economy. Maritime, industrial, technology, aerospace, global health, and other sectors are all expected to drive increased employment in the years to come. Our diversified economy is helping us weather recent downturns, including the global pandemic and the Great Recession.

The City will continue to work with employers, schools, and others to develop new opportunities for workers seeking to build their skills needed to access family-wage jobs. We want to grow our supports for small business owners and thriving neighborhood business districts. City support for arts organizations is also critical for economic development and the cultural life of the city. We seek to expand equitable access for all to jobs and business opportunities, both now and in the future.

Economic Development in the Comprehensive Plan

The Economic Development element will direct the City’s policies related to workforce development, supporting and growing neighborhood commercial districts, sustaining a healthy climate for growing and emerging industries, and supporting the City’s competitive advantage in the industrial and maritime sectors. The update will include policies to ensure equitable access to living-wage careers for all residents, and particularly our BIPOC communities who have not shared equally in the benefits of Seattle’s growing economy.

Major Issues

- Equitable access to jobs and economic opportunities for small businesses
- New opportunities for job training to open doors to living-wage careers
- Support for key industry sectors that will be the source of economic growth
- Support for arts and cultural organizations
What We’re Working On Now

- [Seattle’s Industrial and Maritime Strategy](#)
- [Commercial Affordability](#)
- [Workforce Development](#)
- [Supporting Neighborhood Businesses](#)
- [Key Industry Support](#)

Let’s Talk About the Future

How can we best ensure equitable access to jobs?

How can business districts throughout Seattle’s neighborhoods prosper and thrive?

How can we design job training programs to help residents access careers?

Send your comments to: oneseattlecompplan@seattle.gov

For more information visit: seattle.gov/opcd/one-seattle-plan

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