

Priority:	Thriving Economy	Lead Agency:	Strategic Investment
Program Offer Type:	New Program	Program Contact:	Rob Fussell
Related Programs:			
Frameworks:	Poverty Framework		

Executive Summary

This Offer responds to a request by members of the Board and/or Priority Teams to propose refocusing use of The SIP/Community Service Fee (CSF) to support the Thriving Economy Priority. In the past none of these dollars have targeted economic development programs. This Offer utilizes \$261,690 of the \$1.3 million SIP/CSF Fee which is paid to the County by LSI and Microchip. It ensures County participation/leadership and partnering with government and business entities focused on recruiting traded-sector employers and supporting small business recruitment and retention. It aligns the County with the most notable regional efforts to promote development of industrial lands and a sustainable workforce.

Program Description

This program funds County participation in, and support for, local/regional partnerships, events and activities most likely to produce short and long term economic benefit. Partnerships include membership and involvement in specific programs and joint marketing efforts with organizations such as: Regional Economic Development Partners, PCC & MHCC Small Business Development Centers, The Oregon Science and Technology Partnership, Columbia Corridor Association, East Metro Economic Alliance, Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs and Chambers of Commerce including, but not limited to Greater Gresham, West Columbia Gorge, Portland Business Alliance and Hispanic Metropolitan. A new website will be established for County residents and business prospects to link with all small business support available in the marketplace.

Program Justification

This program contributes to the Thriving Economy Priority by ensuring the County plays an active role with leading organizations working to address economic issues. Also contributes by ensuring the County is a formal partner with the region and that resources support organizations implementing programs addressing County priorities. These actions increase results by: 1) bringing new traded-sector developments on to the tax roles 2) creating new high-wage jobs or retaining existing jobs 3) supporting critical infrastructure projects, which in many cases are now holding-up development. The County will leverage its one-person ECDEV staff through the major efforts in the region. These organizations are directed by boards representing hundreds of business and government leaders. In effect, the County will achieve its hoped-for outcomes by partnering with leaders most committed to improving the region's economic condition. Representatives of these groups will be asked to serve on an advisory board to the Chair's ECDEV program.

Performance Measures

On a short-term basis, all projects will be tracked directly to the number of jobs created; acres of land readied or expedited for development; and new high-value industrial/commercial land placed on the tax roles. Long term performance will be based on the 3 big picture indicators identified by the Priority Team: 1/Increases in annual wages paid by employers. 2/Net County job growth. 3/Increase in percentage of employed MC residents. County investments will add value to fill the gaps, enhance, leverage and multiply outcomes.

Summary of last year's program results and this year's expected results

In the recent past these funds were invested in ongoing general fund programs. Redirecting them will contribute directly and indirectly to long-term job creation, the number one priority for turning Oregon's economy around as identified by the Governor, The Oregon Business Plan, PDC, the Metro Regional Economic Development Partners and many others. This program will produce coordinated, planned, and evaluated efforts to ensure County actions align with this larger vision. Specific business plans have been completed for most partnerships; some are still under development.

Program Mandate: 4 Program and Funding Level Choice

ORS285C.609 requires that the CSF "shall be for services relating to the direct impact of the projects (LSI & Microchip) on public services". Job creation for County residents was the cornerstone priority behind granting of the tax abatements in the first place. When residents have good jobs, the pressure on other County services is minimized.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2005	2005	2006	2006
Contracts	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$225,000
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$35,000
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,690
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$261,690
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$261,690
Program Total:	\$0		\$261,690	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Taxes	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$261,690
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$261,690

Explanation of Revenues

All revenues are from the SIP/Community Service Fee paid by the companies. No ongoing general fund dollars are utilized. For FY05/06 the estimated CSF is \$1.3 million. After \$100K required by existing Board resolution for Special Housing Needs, plus deductions for The City of Gresham share and County SIP Administration, the total undesignated CSF for allocation through the budget process is estimated at \$534,000. This offer uses \$261,690 of those discretionary funds.

Significant Program Changes

This is a new effort to ensure County priorities are addressed on a regional basis and that the County is a serious economic partner in the region. This new program redirects one-time funds away from the short-term ongoing general fund into targeted job-producing activities with promise for long-term positive economic impact.