

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Study Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: 3/25/14 **Start Time:** 11:30 a.m. **Approx. Length:** 15 minutes
Presentation Title: Clackamas County Business Priorities
Department: Public and Government Affairs
Presenters: Gary Schmidt
Other Invitees: Gary Barth and Catherine Comer, Business and Economic Development

WHAT ACTION ARE YOU REQUESTING FROM THE BOARD?

Does the Board want to take a position on the Clackamas County Business Alliance's Business Priorities?

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In November 2012 the Clackamas County Business Alliance (CCBA) hosted a business roundtable meeting in which over 30 representatives of 10 different business organizations and chambers of commerce from the County identified clear business priorities they would like to see improved upon. As a result, three top priorities were clarified:

- Increase positive relationships in Clackamas County among elected officials and businesses.
- Enhance transportation.
- Create a more welcome environment for businesses to grow and thrive.

From that original November meeting sprung a second meeting, equally well attended in March 2013, with the purpose of identifying tangible action steps to support three top business priorities.

In December 2013, CCBA members met with the Board of County Commissioners to seek feedback and possible endorsement of the business priorities. Commissioners recommended that a desired outcome bullet be changed from "Business incentives are enhanced" to "Business incentives are considered." That change was made. Commissioners directed staff to bring the updated business priorities document back for further consideration and possible action.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (current year and ongoing):

N/A

LEGAL/POLICY REQUIREMENTS:

N/A

PUBLIC/GOVERNMENTAL PARTICIPATION:

N/A

OPTIONS:

1. Endorse the business priorities and add the County's name to the list of sponsors.
2. Accept the business priorities without taking a formal position or adding the County's name to the list of sponsors.
3. Take no action.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends option #2: Accept the business priorities without taking a formal position or adding the County's name to the list of sponsors. The Board is currently undertaking a strategic planning process where business priorities for the County will be discussed. It may be premature to endorse another organization's priorities until the County has identified its own strategic economic development goals.

ATTACHMENTS:

Clackamas County Business Priorities document

SUBMITTED BY:

Division Director/Head Approval _____

Department Director/Head Approval _____s/Gary Schmidt_____

County Administrator Approval _____

For information on this issue or copies of attachments, please contact Gary Schmidt @ 503-742-5908
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CLACKAMAS COUNTY BUSINESS PRIORITIES



GOAL: Foster an environment in Clackamas County that is welcoming to business and promotes economic growth.

1

Increase positive relationships in Clackamas County among elected officials and businesses

Desired Outcomes:

- Greater trust exists between citizens and elected officials
- The county image is improved (reputation of 'no' is changed to 'yes')
- Coordination and communication is increased among business associations, local government, the electorate, and the press
- A common voice is built among business associations that includes strong communication and coordination
- Government accountability improves (wise and efficient spending of tax revenue)
- Bipartisanship is actively sought among elected officials
- Citizens and businesses participate in healthy public policy discussions



2

Enhance transportation

Desired Outcomes:

- Transportation is recognized as an important economic driver
- Improved transportation is promoted and funded
- Transit throughout the county improves
- Freight mobility improves



3

Create a more welcome environment for businesses to grow and thrive

Desired Outcomes:

- Businesses have increased access to Capital
- The regulation and permitting processes at city and county levels are streamlined and simplified
- Regulations are reduced (include reduction in fees, taxes and duplication)
- Business incentives are considered
- Public and private entities work together to reduce duplication of business resource creation and promotion (education is provided on where to go for resources rather than reinventing the wheel)

