

NEWS

BusinessInPortland.org is a service of PDC

If this newsletter is not displaying properly, you may view it online at: www.businessinportland.org/bip-newsletter.

We are very excited that you are a partner in this virtual one-stop online business resource, which we fondly call **BIP**. The site provides valuable information about programs and services available to Portland area businesses.

We are pleased to provide you with the first official newsletter for **BusinessInPortland.org** (BIP). We plan to provide you with updates in the coming months that will include business news, expanded resources, as well as information on our success and growth.

BIP Background

BIP is a one-stop on-line resource designed to make it easier for Portland area businesses to access needed programs and services. The website provides valuable information on technical assistance programs, financial resources, government contracting, permitting and much more. BIP, first launched in 2001, was funded in part with Oregon State Lottery Funds administered by the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department. PDC, the city's agency for urban renewal, housing and economic development, maintains the website.

Request for Updated Information

Because BusinessInPortland.org is a portal that provides a brief description of your services and programs, and points users directly to your content, it is important that your information is current. If you change the location of the content on your site, or add new content that you think Portland businesses should know about, you need to let us know using the [BIP feedback form](#).

BIP in the News!

BusinessInPortland.org was featured in the February 24 edition of the Portland Business Journal and the February 28 edition of the Oregonian. This coverage is sparking keen interest, new visitors and requests for expanded content to links on other public organizations/agencies.

BIP in the Economic Development Strategy (EDS)

In the Economic Development Strategy recently completed by PDC's Economic Development Department, BIP was identified as a key tool in helping local businesses access information and resources to help them grow, expand and profit. PDC has been working to enhance and market the site as part of the implementation of that strategy.

BIP Updates

In the last few months we have made several changes to BusinessInPortland.org—notice our new tagline—**Portland's Online Business Resource Working 24/7**.

BIP has been redesigned with new navigation, expanded content, and an integrated search tool to speed business research and access to resources. In addition, the site provides a full listing of PDC business resources including loans and financial assistance, contracting opportunities, site location assistance and economic data, some of which are highlighted in the following paragraphs.

We also added an online survey to learn how we can better serve the diverse needs of our business customers. We think you will see a difference and welcome your suggestions as we continue our ongoing efforts to improve BIP.

PDC Resources

Our Business Loan Programs can help new and existing businesses finance expansion, working capital, and capital acquisitions. For additional information on loan programs, please visit our website at www.pdc.us/bizfinance or call our Business Finance Office at 503-823-3321.

To see how PDC has helped such local businesses as Sports Lab, Nervy Girl Magazine and Pizza a Go-Go, visit the [news release section](#) of the PDC web site.

The N/NE Portland Enterprise and Electronic Commerce Zone provides up to 5 years of property tax abatement on new investment in the N/NE Enterprise Zone in exchange for meeting job creation and other requirements.

Certain E-Commerce companies can also receive a 25 percent state income/excise tax credit. To apply or receive additional information about the program, contact Colin Sears at PDC, 503-823-3320 or e-mail searsc@pdc.us or visit www.pdc.us/ezone. A site map of the E-Zone boundaries is also available on the web site.

If you do not wish to continue receiving this BIP newsletter from PDC, please respond to this email with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line and we will remove your name from our list.