



1452 Hudson Street, U.S. Bank Building, Suite 208, P.O. Box 1278 , Longview, WA 98632
Phone: (360) 423-9921 | Fax: (360) 423-1923
sprague@cowlitzedc.com

In the Loop

To: CEDC Board of Directors, CEDC Members and Interested Parties

From: Ted Sprague, CEDC President

Date: 8/27/09

GROUND IS BROKEN - - OFFICIAL WELCOME TO EGT!

On August 4th we shoveled some dirt, patted ourselves on the back and welcomed a new member to the EDC. Representatives from literally across the United States and the world came together to celebrate the groundbreaking of the over \$200 million EGT project to the Port of Longview. The event was highlighted by remarks made by Larry Clarke, the newly appointed CEO of EGT as he said the Longview site will represent a world leader for grain exports. You no doubt have read about the years it took, the cooperation required and hundreds of people that were involved in securing this project. Congratulations to all as we will celebrate this new company and investment for decades to come.



Larry Clarke, CEO of EGT addressed the group

Shovels in hand the team prepares to turn some dirt

HOST A TOWN HALL? WHAT, ME WORRY?

As the rhetoric and passion built on both sides of the health care reform debate was raging across the United States, I was building sand castles at Cannon Beach, OR enjoying a summer vacation before school begins again for my 11, 9 and 7 year olds. My cell phone rang and I had the internal debate of whether or not to answer as the caller ID came up "Anonymous". I decided after a couple of rings to put down the shovel and take the call as it may be something important or it may be something that could be dismissed quickly. The voice on the other end of the line was a familiar one, Page Phillips from Congressman Baird's office. We discussed the health care debate taking place across the country and the troubling scene by supporters on all sides of the issue. Then she asked me a question I feared she may ask, "*Will you moderate the Congressman's Town Hall next week?*" Being in my relaxed state on vacation and my sudden sense of patriotism I agreed to do it.

If you were one of the 800 estimated in the audience or watching from the safety and comfort of your home you witnessed democracy in action. I was very impressed by all who attended for the respect they showed Congressman Baird and the respect they showed each other. Of course there were a couple of boos and maybe even a little hissing, but it was nothing like we have seen at other town halls across the country. All that I spoke with afterwards were similarly impressed by the knowledge and passion of those who asked questions and by the firm grasp Congressman Baird has on the issue.

The EDC has not taken a formal position on the health care issue, but one thing I think we can all agree on is something has to change. I am very pleased with the benefits the EDC is able to provide our employees, but our health care costs have gone up substantially in the time I have been here and the annual increases cannot be sustained. As the debate continues please stay informed and be in contact with us, the Chamber and our elected officials to insure your voice is heard.

TROUBLING NEWS FROM SOUTH CAROLINA

You made have seen the recent story that Boeing plans to begin the permitting process in South Carolina. This news is worrisome as Boeing continues to play such a large role in the economic fortunes of the State of Washington. The Washington Aerospace Partnership released this response yesterday...

"Washington is the best place in the world to build commercial and military planes. More than 50 large commercial planes are built here every month.

We have a skilled labor force, a strong and supportive community, and local and state governments working to ensure that future generations of Boeing planes are built in Washington. Washington has learned to streamline its permitting process to meet the needs of the aerospace industry; South Carolina has never permitted an aerospace facility of this scale.

The Washington Aerospace Partnership understands Boeing's approach to building airplane parts throughout the world. But we also believe that an objective analysis of the factors relevant to successful assembly of commercial aircraft will lead Boeing and other aerospace companies to conclude that Washington is the optimal state to assemble new generation aircraft, including the 787."

We will be paying attention to this activity as it moves forward. If you would like more information or would like to get involved please visit the following website - - www.washington-aerospace.com

SENATOR MURRAY ANNOUNCES \$1.4 MILLION IN RECOVERY FUNDING FOR THE MINT FARM INDUSTRIAL PARK

Today, U.S. Senator Patty Murray announced that a \$1.4 million Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant has been awarded by the Department of Commerce to the city of Longview to extend Weber Avenue and provide water infrastructure to serve the Mint Farm Industrial Park. The grant, included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act), will create jobs and provide a boost to the regional economy.

"This is a great example of stimulus dollars being put to good use in our communities," said Senator Patty Murray. "This funding will put people to work in Longview, and it will help lay down a strong foundation for long-term economic growth."

As a senior member of the Senate Appropriations committee, Murray worked to ensure that investments in Washington state communities were a key component of the Recovery Act. Longview City Manager, Bob Gregory and his team worked a great deal on this grant and the City should be congratulated!

LOWER COLUMBIA COLLEGE PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

One of our greatest assets for economic development is the campus, staff and students at LCC. The leadership of our College President, Dr. Jim McLaughlin and the board of trustees is impressive in the way they are never satisfied by the status quo. The most recent evidence of this is their planning and design work for a new \$42 million Health and Science building to accommodate the needs of the ever increasing nursing program.

The 70,000 square foot building will house biology, chemistry, physics, earth science and nursing programs and will feature a large lecture hall. The new facility is projected to open in 2013 and will be located along Maple Street next to the LCC Main Building.

The EDC is proud to call LCC one of its strongest partners in economic development. LCC's work in the area of workforce development is second to none and their vision is greatly appreciated by all in the community.



An artist's rendering of the new \$42 million Health and Science building coming to Lower Columbia College.

LONGVIEW FIBRE PAPER AND PACKAGING, INC. HAS BEEN SELECTED AS A FINALIST FOR THE 2009 PPI AWARDS

Longview Fibre Paper and Packaging, Inc., has been nominated for one of the pulp and paper industry's most prestigious awards. Longview's FibreShield™ has been short-listed for the Promotional/Sales/Marketing award in the 2009 Pulp & Paper

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International (PPI) Awards. FibreShield™ is Longview's super-strong paper grade designed to meet the most demanding cement-sack applications domestically, and in developing countries across the world. Promotional material may be sampled via the web at www.fibreshield.com.

The Pulp & Paper International (PPI) Awards are the only global awards dedicated to recognizing these achievements in the sector. Longview is the only U.S. company in the final round in this category. Matt Elhardt, Marketing Director said: "These new awards are regarded as a universal benchmark of quality within the paper and pulp industry. Being short-listed is a tremendous achievement for the Company, particularly in this challenging year."

Mark Rushton, Editor of PPI, said: "We've been thrilled with the high quality and number of entries for the first ever PPI Awards. The finalists should be justly proud of their achievements. Not only does the PPI Awards event allow us to honor the best in business but it will also offer fantastic networking opportunities for those who attend."

This year's winners will be announced at a ceremony at the Hilton Munich Park, Germany on Germany on October 28.

NEW TECHNOLOGY STIMULUS PROGRAM FOR SMALL BUSINESSES IN WASHINGTON

Washington Technology Center recently announced the launch of the Microfabrication Laboratory Access Program, a new stimulus program that will award short-term access to sophisticated MEMS fabrication equipment to help small companies in Washington develop job-growing, innovative commercial technologies.

"In these difficult economic times, I commend Washington Technology Center for offering companies increased access to resources for developing market-ready products," said Washington's Director of Commerce Rogers Weed. "This kind of collaboration between the public and private sectors helps support our state's 21st century industries, and more importantly, helps to create quality jobs right here in Washington."

"Our new lab access program is one of three state-funded programs that we're using to invest in innovation in Washington state," said Lee Cheatham, Ph.D., executive director of Washington Technology Center. "We believe this program will help small companies



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more effectively leverage limited funding for technology development in the current economy.

Washington Technology Center will accept proposals from companies with fewer than 100 employees in any technical area or industry that can utilize the facilities and equipment of the center's 15,000-square-foot Microfabrication Laboratory. Eligible projects include, but are not limited to: proof of concept, prototyping, testing, process development, and small-scale production.

Proposals selected for awards will need to show clear potential for economic impact and a well-defined work plan. As the award program is focused on companies that have an immediate need for laboratory facilities, lab access projects are limited to a maximum of three consecutive months of no-cost Microfabrication Laboratory use.

Tours of the Microfabrication Laboratory will be held Aug. 28 and Sept. 29, 2009.

More information about the Microfabrication Laboratory Access Program is available online at <http://www.watechcenter.org/accessprogram>.

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