

## Jefferson County Economic Framework

11/9/21 - Draft

**Economic Framework Statement of Purpose & Use:** The purpose of this Economic Framework is to provide a shared direction for community leaders from the County, City, Port and PUD to collaborate on issues of economic importance.

**Shared values:** economic development does not occur in a vacuum (i.e., all economic development is dependent on housing, healthcare, childcare, schools, transportation, infrastructure, parks & recreation facilities and other amenities that enhance our quality of life) but exists within an interconnected web; government plays a role among many; successful economic development requires partnerships; successful projects plan for climate change, a coherent framework is desired.

**Why are we at the table:** That we come together to address and collaborate on issues, complex problems and projects that cross jurisdictional boundaries, are bigger than one agency can address alone, and/or that require public/ private partnership.

1. What does each organization do?
  - a. **Jefferson PUD** seeks to better the lives of the residents of our community through the delivery of water, sewer, electric, and broadband service.
  - b. The **Port of Port Townsend** serves the citizens of Jefferson County by responsibly maintaining and developing property and facilities to promote sustainable economic growth, to provide community access to Port facilities and services, and to protect and maintain our community resources and maritime heritage.
  - c. **Jefferson County government** strives to provide the social and physical infrastructure for all people, businesses and families to thrive here.
  - d. The **City of Port Townsend** envisions a thriving community for all. By delivering infrastructure and services, and through engagement with community members and partners, the City of Port Townsend aims to meet and anticipate ongoing and evolving community needs over the long-term. Basic infrastructure and services underpin a healthy natural environment, meaningful economic development, and a high quality of life for residents.
  - e. Each organization retains their separate autonomy while participating in the Intergovernmental Collaborative Group (ICG).
2. What projects could we collaborate on to help our local economy be more healthy and supportive of the local residents?
  - a. Affordable housing, including specifically workforce housing
  - b. Broadband
  - c. Social Infrastructure
    - i. Childcare
    - ii. Parks & Recreation

- iii. Schools/Educational opportunities
      - iv. Healthcare & wellness for all ages
    - d. Infrastructure resiliency in a changing climate
    - e. Key infrastructure projects & plans such as (not in any particular order):
      - i. Point Hudson Preservation Plan
      - ii. Boat yard expansion plans
      - iii. Glen Cove infrastructure and future
      - iv. Port Hadlock sewer infrastructure and development opportunities
      - v. Jefferson County International Airport (JCIA) industrial development
      - vi. Larry Scott Trail/Olympic Discovery Trail
      - vii. Olympic Gravity Water System
    - f. The administrators are tasked with bringing a list of possible projects to collaborate on and for the ICG to prioritize.
  - 3. We commit to complete transparency and effective public engagement on all projects and plans.
  - 4. What are our principles of communication/working together?
    - a. We strive to explore the issues with curiosity, to understand each other's perspective.
    - b. We coordinate on projects that involve voter approval to fund; no surprises.
    - c. We coordinate on legislative agendas.
    - d. Provide guidance for key projects to be considered for Public Infrastructure Fund (PIF) funding and other funding opportunities.
  - 5. Define success.
    - a. Projects support or enhance existing businesses (i.e., infrastructure to support growth within existing businesses).
    - b. Projects fill identified gaps in supply chains or services needed by existing businesses (i.e., locating new businesses that support existing businesses within the community).
    - c. Projects support growth in key sectors that are aligned with the community's vision and support the triple bottom line, in this case expressed as economically, environmentally and socially sustainable.
    - d. Projects actively advance equity and diversity.
    - e. No projects support the mission of the day at the expense of the future.

## WORK PLAN

### Housing details/tasks:

- i. Seek to get technical assistance from Commerce/USDA Rural Development/the State Housing Finance Commission
- ii. Identify models and case studies of rural communities that have moved the needle on workforce housing