

Pacific Northwest Manufacturing Partnership – SB 482

What does SB 482 do?

The bill creates the Pacific Northwest Manufacturing Partnership Advisory Committee (PNMP). The PNMP Advisory Committee will sit within Business Oregon, and the department will have staff focused on facilitating regional collaboration among the manufacturing sector, relevant education and research organizations, and the public sector. The Partnership will unify efforts to grow Oregon’s manufacturing businesses, identify needs and help fill them by leveraging the regions resources and strengths. The Partnership would be required to report to the legislature annually on its activities and progress.

Background

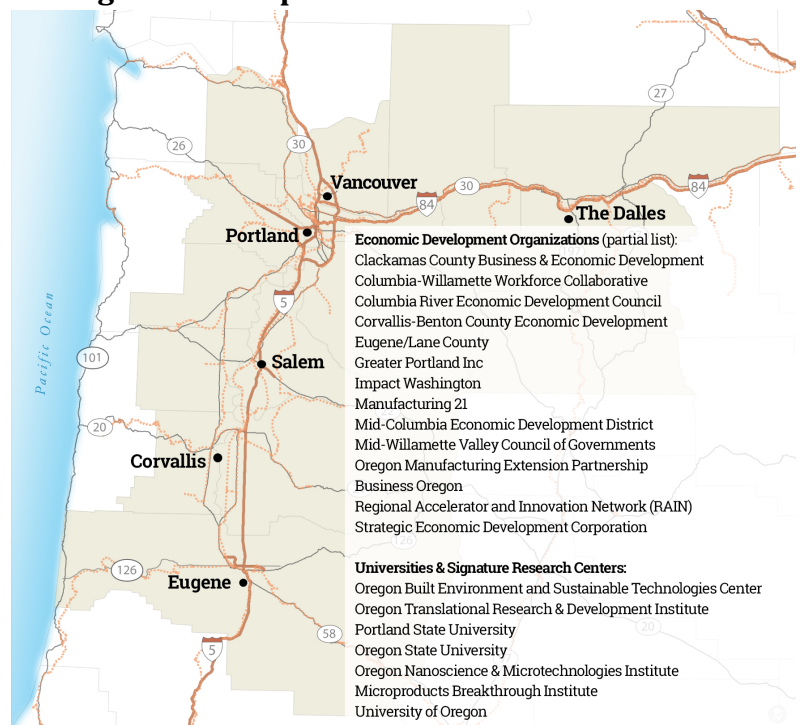
The idea for PNMP was formed in response to a federal initiative. The Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (IMCP) aims to accelerate the resurgence of manufacturing in the U.S. and is designed to revolutionize the way federal agencies leverage economic development funds. Through the IMCP and the Economic Development Administration, the federal government is rewarding best practices that will strengthen a community’s competitive edge for attracting global manufacturer and supply chain investments and coordinating federal aid by synchronizing grant programs across multiple departments and agencies.

PNMP is submitting an application for federal designation as a manufacturing community in April 2015 in accordance with the IMCP program's requirements and geographical limitations.

What is the Pacific Northwest Manufacturing Partnership?

The Partnership is a bi-state alliance including SW Washington, and the Willamette Valley and Columbia River Corridors. Individual members include cities, counties, community colleges, universities, research institutes, and multiple economic development and workforce organizations.

Together these organizations are part of the manufacturing business ecosystem that is working to support the regional manufacturing sector.



What will the Partnership accomplish?

The Partnership is committed to evolving the manufacturing ecosystem to grow businesses and increase jobs in the manufacturing industry that has been the backbone of the Pacific Northwest economy for more than 150 years. By bringing together the many entities that support manufacturing in Oregon, the Partnership can capitalize on advantages and opportunities, leverage investments, coordinate research and commercialization, collaborate on developing infrastructure, and accelerate innovation, training, research and access to capital.

The Partnership Advantage – A Case Study

The first grant application sponsored by PNMP for federal assistance under EDA’s Economic Adjustment Assistance Program has been submitted by Oregon BEST as the applicant. This effort serves as a case study that demonstrates the value of the partnership’s maturing collaborative process and commitment to work together to make catalytic investments within the manufacturing ecosystem. The \$200,000 project called, “Advanced Wood Products Manufacturing Study - Cross Laminated Timber (CLT) Acceleration in Oregon and Southwest Washington,” will study a variety of aspects essential for the region to play a significant role in the adoption of CLT in the building industry. It will examine the raw material resource, the manufacturing capacity, the capital expense to start up a manufacturing line, the workforce training needs and the market barriers and opportunity. PNMP provided assistance with grant writing and securing matching funds from Oregon BEST, Business Oregon, OSU, Woodworks, City of Eugene, Clackamas County, City of Corvallis, Benton County, and the Oregon Department of Forestry.



Photo Credit: EMILY DAWSON OF SRG PARTNERSHIP IN PORTLAND - Architect's rendering of a new visitor's center at the Oregon Zoo. The large slab on the roof is cross-laminated timber.