



ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT

Bend Economic Development Advisory Board 2019-21 Strategic Plan

Goal 1: Increase business satisfaction for those doing business with the City of Bend.

Objectives:

- Improve two-way communication with the 7,000 registered businesses in Bend, soliciting feedback via an annual business satisfaction survey
- Host three open listening sessions annually for businesses to share feedback and concerns with the BEDAB
- Turn business feedback from the annual survey and listening sessions into four policy recommendations for consideration by the Bend City Council each year, three of which will be implemented
- Increase the reach and engagement of the Business Registration Newsletter—growing the mailing list by 20% while increasing average open rate to 31%, and average click-through rate to 3.5%
- Look at opportunities for frictionless permitting; work with Community Development Department staff to scope out the potential for a permitting “Express Lane” following the launch of an updated permitting system in the Fall of 2019

Goal 2: Grow and develop a talented workforce:

Objectives:

- Increase the availability of childcare by 500 slots in Bend, identifying at least one new policy to incentivize expansion of childcare services and tracking the impact of the recently adopted two-year Transportation SDC reduction for childcare

- Connect businesses to workforce development opportunities through the addition of an East Cascades Works ex-officio seat on BEDAB. Leverage this coordination into 20 new Bend businesses participating in ECW programs
- Support policy that allocates funding for critical infrastructure investment

Goal 3: Ensure an adequate supply of land for employment and residential uses:

Objectives:

- Work with relevant City departments to develop and distribute a quarterly report detailing buildable land inventory, absorption rates, and other relevant metrics concerning land supply
- Ensure the Juniper Ridge Management Board meets the benchmarks set forth by the Juniper Ridge Working Group, completing a framework plan and an implementation plan for Juniper Ridge by 2021.
- Survey a sample of property development and production builders operating in Bend on a quarterly basis to determine developer confidence and identify looming concerns around land supply or other development barriers
- Support policy that allocates funding for critical infrastructure investment