

## 2021 Economic Development Focus Areas

### **Amazing Place: Growing Jobs and Economic Opportunity in the Central Puget Sound Region**

The Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board has identified the following as focus areas for board and staff efforts in 2021 that support the implementation of the region's economic strategy, Amazing Place.

### **Regional Economic Strategy**

**Lead** the development of a new economic strategy, to serve as the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the central Puget Sound region per the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

### **Regional Aviation System**

**Complete** the Regional Aviation Baseline Study to provide a clear picture of the region's aviation system and form the technical foundation for future decisions by regional and state leaders. **Participate** in the WSDOT-coordinated Commercial Aviation Coordinating Commission, which is tasked with recommending ways to accommodate future aviation activity needs.

### **Housing & Commercial Space**

**Conduct** a regional housing needs assessment and **develop** strategies and best practices to meet those needs. **Develop** guidance to help local jurisdictions mitigate business displacement.

### **E.D.A CARES Act Award**

**Utilize** U.S. Economic Development Administration CARES Act funding to support disaster recovery and resiliency coordination, including efforts targeting highly impacted regional industries.

### **Regional Equity Strategy**

**Develop** a regional equity strategy to incorporate equity and social justice in regional growth, transportation, and economic development planning and analysis.

### **Workforce Development**

**Support** efforts to identify future workforce needs and align workforce development capacity to meet those needs, while working to retrain dislocated workers.

### **Broadband**

**Support** efforts to grow broadband capacity in the region, including expansion of public authority to provide broadband service.

### **Autonomous Vehicles**

**Support** efforts to prepare the region for adoption of land, air, and water based autonomous vehicles. **Support** efforts to expand industry expertise to develop these emerging technologies.

### **Economic Development Funding**

**Support** efforts to preserve state funding for programs that will help drive economic recovery.

### **Economic Development Financing Tools**

**Support** efforts to expand Washington's limited financing tools for economic development.