

# 2024 Economic Development Priorities



Puget Sound Regional Council

The Central Puget Sound Economic Development District has identified the following items as priority areas of focus in 2024 for sustaining the region's economy. These priorities are identified to support near-term activities by regional partners and legislative efforts that work to implement the strategies in the [Regional Economic Strategy](#) to reach the goals of; expanding economic opportunity, maintaining global competitiveness, and sustaining the region's quality of life.

## **Strengthen the state's [economic development ecosystem](#).**

Invest in regional economic development programs including state Associate Development Organizations (ADOs) and other programs that support business recruitment, retention and expansion, cluster development, permit streamlining, and the region's entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystem.

## **Strengthen [workforce development](#) efforts to meet the needs of the region's workers, employers, and a growing economy.**

Encourage regional residents to participate in the workforce, connect local students to higher educational opportunities, align training programs with the needs of regional employers, and scale up training programs to fill job openings.

## **Continue to invest in [regional infrastructure](#) that supports economic development, including [broadband](#).**

Continue to support economic development tools and programs that fund foundational infrastructure such as broadband, transportation, and tax increment financing.

## **Expand [housing](#) options in the region to meet the needs of residents and workers.**

Develop more housing, of different types, to meet the needs of residents and workers across the region.

## **Develop the region's [clean energy industry](#) to address global climate change and grow regional jobs.**

Continue to develop clean energy technologies in the region such as aerospace biofuels, offshore wind, hydrogen, fusion, and other emerging technologies.

## **Secure the region's position as a hub for advancement of [artificial intelligence](#) and [autonomous vehicles](#) technologies.**

Continue to advance the region's position as a leader in the development of artificial intelligence and autonomous vehicles technologies to drive innovation across industry sectors.

## **Support the continued success of the region's [military](#) installations and [defense](#) sector.**

Support the modernization of the region's military installations and operations, and better quantify ongoing economic benefits of the military and defense sector.