

**PALOUSE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL'S**

# **COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY**

**FOR THE SOUTHEAST WASHINGTON COUNTIES OF  
ASOTIN, COLUMBIA, GARFIELD & WHITMAN**



**CRUISE SHIP, ASOTIN COUNTY**



**HISTORIC DAYTON DEPOT, COLUMBIA COUNTY**



**HISTORIC FLOUR MILL, GARFIELD COUNTY**



**WSU CAMPUS, WHITMAN COUNTY**

**2008**

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUMMARY .....	1
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .....	1
CEDS COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND REPRESENTATIVES.....	2
ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT.....	5
DISTRICT'S PROFILE.....	6
Demographic & Socioeconomic Information.....	7
<i>Population</i>	
<i>Median Age</i>	
<i>Gender and Racial Composition</i>	
<i>Educational Attainment</i>	
<i>Median Household Income</i>	
<i>Per Capita Income</i>	
<i>Poverty Rates</i>	
Labor Force Characteristics .....	14
<i>Population Distribution by Age</i>	
<i>Labor Force: Population distribution and unemployment rate</i>	
<i>Largest Employers</i>	
<i>Mean and Median Wages</i>	
<i>Labor Force: Number of employees by industry</i>	
<i>Major Industries and Employees by County</i>	
Land Use Classifications.....	26
<i>Commercial and Industrial</i>	
<i>Industrial Sites and Parks</i>	
<i>Housing</i>	
<i>Median Home Prices</i>	
<i>Housing for Cities &amp; Counties</i>	
Natural Resources & Environment.....	31
<i>Geography</i>	
<i>Climate</i>	
<i>SEPA</i>	
<i>Agriculture</i>	
<i>Timber/Forest Land</i>	
<i>Surface Water/River System</i>	
<i>Floodplain/Wetlands</i>	
<i>Hazardous &amp; Contaminated Sites</i>	

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Infrastructure.....	35
<i>Water Supply</i>	
<i>Sewage Collection and Treatment</i>	
<i>Solid Waste Disposal</i>	
<i>Telecommunications</i>	
<i>Energy</i>	
Transportation.....	38
<i>Highway Transportation System</i>	
<i>Public Transportation System</i>	
<i>Air Transportation System</i>	
<i>Rail Transportation System</i>	
<i>Water Transportation System</i>	
Public Facilities .....	43
<i>Public Safety</i>	
<i>School and Educational Institutions</i>	
<i>Libraries</i>	
<i>Tourism</i>	
Community Services .....	49
<i>Medical Facilities</i>	
<i>Social Services</i>	
Government.....	53
<i>State and Local Taxes</i>	
<i>Political Jurisdiction</i>	
PARTNERS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT .....	56
<i>Economic and Tourism Development Organizations</i>	
<i>Resources for Economic Development</i>	
OVERVIEW OF ECONOMY.....	57
INTERNAL TRENDS AND FORCES .....	58
<i>Strengths</i>	
<i>Weaknesses</i>	

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXTERNAL TRENDS AND FORCES .....	59
<i>Opportunities</i>	
<i>Threats</i>	
REGIONAL VISION AND GOALS .....	60
<i>Vision Statement</i>	
<i>Goals and Objectives</i>	
<i>County Projects</i>	
<i>Accomplishments</i>	
<i>Criteria for Evaluation</i>	

### TABLE INDEX:

TABLE 1 - Population by Cities and Counties, Southeast WA.....	7
TABLE 1a - Population by Cities and Counties, North Central ID.....	8
TABLE 2 - Median Age, USA, WA, and ID 1980-2007.....	9
TABLE 3 - Gender Composition by County 2002-2007.....	9
TABLE 4 - Racial Composition by County 1990-2007.....	10
TABLE 5 - Educational Attainment in Population 25 Years and Over 1980-2000.....	11
TABLE 6 - Median Household Income by County 1990-2007.....	12
TABLE 7 - Per Capita Income 1980-2005.....	12
TABLE 8 - Poverty Status 2000, 2004.....	13
TABLE 9 - Labor Force and Unemployment Rate 1980-2007.....	17
TABLE 10 - Largest employers in the PEDD area.....	18
TABLE 11 - 2007 Eastern Washington Wages.....	19
TABLE 12 - Median Home Prices 2004-2006.....	29
TABLE 13 - Housing Units by Structure Type for Cities and Counties, WA 2000, 2007...	30
TABLE 14 - Acreage & Yields – Major Crops, WA 2004-2006.....	32
TABLE 15 - National Forest Acreage.....	33
TABLE 16 - Number of Confirmed & Suspected Contaminated Waste Sites 2007.....	34
TABLE 17 - Area Water Capacities.....	35
TABLE 18 - Sewage Treatment Methods and Sanitary Sewer Capacity, WA 2007.....	36
TABLE 19 - Summary of Roadway Mileage by Jurisdiction, WA.....	39
TABLE 20 - Total Tonnage of Commodities Shipped through Area Locks 1986-2006.....	42
TABLE 21 - Area Crime Rates 2005-2006.....	43
TABLE 22 – Four Year Institutions Fall 2007.....	44
TABLE 22a –Area Community College Enrollment Fall 2007.....	45
TABLE 23 - Travel Statistics 2005 .....	48
TABLE 24 - Licensed Hospitals in the PEDD.....	49
TABLE 25 - Skilled & Assisted Nursing Care Facilities, Adult Family Homes.....	50
TABLE 26 - County Services for Elderly & Low Income Populations.....	51
TABLE 27 - Percent Change in Taxable Retail Sales, 1st Quarter 2006-2007.....	54
TABLE 28 - Political Jurisdiction .....	55

# SUMMARY

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The Palouse Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) 2008 is an economic development planning tool funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce. The Palouse CEDS examines the Palouse Economic Development District (PEDD), a region comprised of four southeastern Washington State counties: Asotin, Columbia, Garfield and Whitman. Additionally, the PEDD shares some common economic issues with the neighboring Clearwater Economic Development District located in north central Idaho.

The intent of the CEDS is to identify regional issues and potential solutions. This is an ongoing, long term process that discusses regional economic development.

The CEDS document accomplishes the following:

- Provides data and information on the District;
- Discusses external and internal trends and forces;
- Establishes the District's vision and goals;
- Outlines programs and projects for implementation;
- Lists prior accomplishments; and
- Sets criteria for evaluating the process.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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## PEDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Francis Benjamin  
Pullman City Council

Dean Burton  
Garfield County Commissioner  
Board President

Bill Clemens  
Pacific Power

Janet Danley  
Walla Walla Community  
College

Jennie Dickinson  
Port of Columbia Manager

Jerry Finch  
Whitman County Commissioner

Lonnie Flynn  
Port of Garfield  
Commissioner

Michael J. Gordon  
Business Owner  
Board Treasurer

Jan Gould  
Pomeroy Chamber of Commerce

Bob Gronholz  
Port of Whitman  
Commissioner

Richard Hendricksen  
County Planning Director

Terri Jeffreys  
US Forest Service  
Pomeroy Ranger District

Tom Johnson  
Business Owner

Doug Mattoon  
Asotin County Commissioner  
Board Vice President

Michelle Peters  
Hells Canyon Visitor Bureau

Dwight Robanske  
Columbia County  
Commissioner  
Board Secretary

Mike Thomason  
Avista Utilities

# **CEDS COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND REPRESENTATION**

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## **Asotin County**

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Mark Appleford Anatone resident	Larry Baumberger Clarkston City Council	Warren Benner Asotin resident	Cam Bickford Asotin resident
Jennifer Bly Asotin resident	Mark Bolland Clarkston Resident	Mark Bogar Asotin Resident	Vikki Bonfield Asotin City Council
Daylene Braden Anatone resident	Russ Braun County resident	Gary Budd County resident	Wes Clizer County resident
Marla Cunningham Asotin resident	Kayla Davison Asotin H.S. Student	Richard Eggleston Asotin resident	Dixie Ehrenreich Clarkston resident
John Ehrenreich Clarkston resident	Donna Engle Mayor of Clarkston	Elaine Greene Asotin resident	Pat Hough Anatone resident
Carl Ingram County resident	Jim Jarvis Asotin resident	Lynn Jarvis Asotin resident	Richard Jette County resident
Joyce Keefer County resident	Mary Keefer County resident	Wanda Keefer Port of Clarkston Mgr.	Robert Kincaid Asotin resident
John Kirkland Asotin City Council	Sue Kirkland Asotin resident	Doug Mattoon Asotin County Commissioner	Don McQuary Valley Vision Board Member
JoAnne Miller Asotin resident	Michelle Murray County resident	Rolly Phillips County resident	Joel Ristau County Engineer
Craig Rockwell Corp of Engineers	Corrie Rosetti County resident	Linda Rosetti County resident	Rod Sangster Anatone resident
Jeff Sanderson County employee	Brenda Schultz Asotin resident	Matt Seibly Anatone resident	Dave Spatz Anatone resident
Pat Tenny Anatone resident	Bob Van Pelt Asotin resident	G. Vawter County resident	Laura Vawter County resident

## **Columbia County**

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Kathy Berg Dayton Chamber & Business	Debra Casey Rep. Cathy McMorris- Rogers	Bill Clemens Pacific Power	Betty Lou Crothers Business
Jennie Dickinson Port of Columbia Mgr.	Joann Grendahl Resident	Bruce Grimshaw County Hospital Dist.	Glenn Hagfelt Columbia Co. Rural Electric

Deb Hayes City employee	Richard Hendricksen Columbia County Planner	Candy Jones Business	Doug Krueger Port of Columbia Commissioner
Kraig Kushar CTED	Katie Leid Dayton School District	Janet Lyons Rural Library District	Barb Miller Business
Rich Monacelli Small Business Dev. Center	Terry Nealey Attorney	Norm Passmore Dentist	Cheryl Ray American Energy
Chuck Reeves Columbia County Commissioner	Dwight Robanske County Commissioner	Lisa Ronnberg Managing Dir. PEDC & Chamber of Commerce	Shirley Scott Dayton Chamber
Rich Steward Dayton School District	Elizabeth Thorn Blue Mt. Heritage Society	George Touchette Business	Anne Walsh Puget Sound Energy
Bob Warren Dayton Dev. Task Force/Farmer			

## Garfield County

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Marcia Baden Pomeroy resident	Alynder Benson Pomeroy resident	Joe Benson Pomeroy resident	Lora Brazell Port of Garfield Mgr.
Bob Cox Pomeroy resident	Sandi Dixon Pomeroy resident	Jenn Evanson Pomeroy resident	Shirley Fischer Pomeroy resident
Lisa Gingerich Business	Alan Gould Mayor of Pomeroy	Jan Gould Pomeroy Chamber President	Ann Heitstuman Pomeroy resident
Tom Herres Business	Gary Huntington Pomeroy	Karen Huntington Pomeroy	Terri Jeffreys U.S. Forest Service
Marvin Jones Pomeroy resident	Margaret Killingsworth Pomeroy resident	Butch Klaveano Pomeroy resident	Joanna Lueck Pomeroy resident
Lisa Lund Pomeroy resident	Stacy Lunders Pomeroy resident	Tom Meyers Business	Sue Nelson Pomeroy resident
Matt Newberg Prosecuting Attorney, Garfield County	Stephanie Newberg Pomeroy resident	Jennie Odell Pomeroy resident	Alesia Ruchert Managing Dir. PEDC Garfield County
Dotty Van Vogt Pomeroy resident			

## Whitman County

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Rose Anderson Farmington resident	Norma Becker Mayor of Colfax	Mary Bertrand LaCrosse resident	Rodger Bly St. John resident
Mike Bogenreif Tekoa resident	Dan Boone Port of Whitman Commissioner	Larry Burgess Mayor of LaCrosse	Tom Cauley LaCrosse resident
Jerry Chastain LaCrosse resident	Skip Colyar St. John resident	Randy Crowner Albion resident	Jim Dahmen Colton resident
Rollie Dahmen Colton resident	Wayne Dainty LaCrosse resident	Alan Davis Pullman resident	Jon Davis County Hospital Dist.
Pete Dickinson Pullman resident	James Downes Albion resident	Kelly Dub Farmington resident	Jerry Finch County Commissioner
Terry Finch Albion resident	John Giudice Tekoa resident	Bob Gronholz Port of Whitman Commissioner	Debbie Groom Tekoa resident
Shannon Hall Colfax resident	Sandra Hansen Farmington resident	Jim Heilsberg County Hospital Dist.	Don Henderson Colfax resident
Debbie Hoadley County Hospital Dist.	Laura Hokenson Mayor of Farmington	Jim Hudak Pullman resident	Ken Jacobs Rosalia resident
Glenn Johnson Pullman resident	Steve Jones Colton resident	Don Keeney LaCrosse resident	Robert Kerber Albion resident
Kristie Kirkpatrick County Library District	Michael Largent County Commissioner	Linda Ledgerwood County Hospital Dist.	Dave Lehmitz Colton resident
Earl Leland Colfax resident	William Lipe Albion resident	Todd Lobdell Farmington resident	Harold Loomis St. John resident
John Love Port of Whitman Commissioner	Patti Meyer LaCrosse resident	David Nails Colfax resident	Archie Neal Garfield resident
Greg Partch County Commissioner	Joe Poire Port of Whitman Mgr.	Deena Rauch County Hospital Dist.	Jeremiah Roberts Colfax resident
Andy Rodgers Colfax resident	Norm Schorzman Palouse resident	Duane Schwatke Colfax resident	Andres Sena Albion resident
Dot Sharp Colton resident	Lydia Smith St. John resident	Debbie Snell Port of Whitman Empl.	Jeanette Solimine Colfax resident
Jenni Straughan Colton resident	Carol Sturman Tekoa resident	Mel Taylor WSU	Carl Thompson Colfax resident
Donna Triplett Farmington resident	K.B. Trunkey St. John resident	David Tysz Tekoa resident	Frank Watson St. John resident
Mike Webb St. John resident	Jerry Weber Colton resident	Nathan Weller Pullman resident	Melinda Wilkinis Tekoa resident
Mark Workman Pullman City Engineer	Linda Zehm Tekoa resident		

# ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

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## PEDC STAFF

Kathy Parker  
Executive Director

Tina Davidson  
Administrative Assistant

Jenny Scott  
Program Coordinator

Laura Dixon  
Bookkeeper

Lisa Ronnberg  
Managing Director  
Columbia County

Alesia Ruchert  
Managing Director  
Garfield County

Tammy Lewis  
Managing Director  
Whitman County

## Other Major Contributors

We would also like to acknowledge the government officials and staff persons who provided us with essential information, the business and non-profit professionals and members of the community whose input to the CEDS was invaluable, and the individuals who attended the PEDC public meetings and volunteered their time to contribute to the program.

Special thanks to Tina Davidson, Lisa Ronnberg, Tammy Lewis, Alesia Ruchert and Jenny Scott for their assistance in organizing meetings, gathering data and crafting the document.

# **DISTRICT'S PROFILE**

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The Palouse Economic Development District is located in the southeastern corner of Washington State and borders the State of Idaho and the State of Oregon. The District is comprised of four counties: Asotin, Columbia, Garfield, and Whitman, home to 21 incorporated town and cities and 12 unincorporated communities.

The boundaries of the District contain 4,300 square miles of land and a population of 70,450 according to the 2007 estimates.

## **DEMOGRAPHIC & SOCIOECONOMIC INFORMATION**

### **POPULATION**

#### **Palouse Economic Development District**

The District's population has seen nearly a 4% increase since the 2000 census according to the estimates provided by the Washington State Office of Financial Management. This is about half the growth rate for the rest of the State of Washington.

#### **Asotin County**

Asotin County has seen a 3.5% increase since the 2000 census, and 7.2% growth in the City of Asotin. The City of Clarkston has slightly decreased in population.

#### **Columbia County**

Columbia County has seen slight growth since the 2000 census. Most of the growth has been focused within the City of Dayton.

#### **Garfield County**

The population of Garfield County has slightly decreased, while the City of Pomeroy's growth has remained somewhat flat.

#### **Whitman County**

The primary area of growth for Whitman County has been the City of Pullman with a 13.6% increase since the 2000 census, while the county has grown 4.5%. Colfax, Colton, Palouse, St. John, and Tekoa are seeing growth in their estimated population.

#### **General population comment**

It should be noted that population estimates in the State of Washington are based on various reports generated and submitted to the Office of Financial Management by the individual cities and counties.

**TABLE 1 - Population by Cities and Counties**

County, WA	City	1970	1980	1990	2000	2007*	2010*	2015*	2020*	2025*
<b>Asotin</b>		13,799	16,823	17,605	20,551	21,300	22,582	23,569	24,650	25,671
	Asotin	637	946	981	1,095	1,180	1,266	1,321	1,382	1,439
	Clarkston	6,312	6,903	6,753	7,337	7,280	8,589	8,964	9,375	9,763
<b>Columbia</b>		4,439	4,057	4,024	4,064	4,100	4,000	4,150	4,126	4,092
	Dayton	2,596	2,565	2,468	2,655	2,720	2,537	2,632	2,617	2,596
	Starbuck	216	198	170	130	130	167	174	173	171
<b>Garfield</b>		2,911	2,468	2,248	2,397	2,350	2,510	2,596	2,668	2,734
	Pomeroy	1,823	1,716	1,393	1517	1,520	1,630	1,686	1,732	1,775
<b>Whitman</b>		37,900	40,103	38,775	40,740	42,700	41,149	42,342	43,651	44,856
	Albion	687	631	632	616	625	656	675	696	715
	Colfax	2,664	2,780	2,761	2,844	2,905	2,904	2,988	3,081	3,166
	Colton	279	307	325	386	420	352	363	374	384
	Endicott	333	290	320	355	331	338	348	359	369
	Farmington	140	176	126	153	145	148	152	157	161
	Garfield	610	599	544	641	630	623	641	661	679
	LaCrosse	426	373	336	380	350	381	392	404	415
	Lamont	88	101	93	106	90	101	104	107	110
	Malden	219	209	189	215	215	212	218	225	231
	Oakesdale	447	444	346	420	420	418	430	443	456
	Palouse	948	1,005	915	1,011	1,020	1,005	1,034	1,066	1,096
	Pullman	20,509	23,579	23,478	24,948	28,860	24,601	25,314	26,097	26,817
	Rosalia	569	572	552	648	650	608	626	645	663
	St. John	575	550	499	548	564	548	564	581	597
	Tekoa	808	854	750	754	835	820	844	870	894
Uniontown	310	286	280	345	345	317	326	336	345	
<b>District Totals</b>		59,049	63,451	62,652	67,752	70,450	70,241	72,657	75,095	77,353
<b>WA State</b>		3,143,250	4,132,353	4,866,669	5,894,121	6,488,000	6,648,112	7,096,501	7,545,269	7,975,471

*\*Estimate*  
Source: [www.ofm.wa.gov](http://www.ofm.wa.gov)  
Rev. 10-07

## Idaho Population

While not part of the Palouse Economic Development District, two Idaho counties are contiguous and provide labor pool to parts of the Palouse Economic Development District. It is interesting to note that the major cities in both Idaho counties are nearly contiguous to the two largest cities in the District. Moscow, Idaho is across the border from Pullman, and Lewiston, Idaho is across the Snake River from Clarkston. These four cities provide the region with its greatest concentration of labor force.

Latah County's overall population has slightly increased since the 2000 census according to Idaho Commerce and Labor Department. The City of Moscow was the only area of growth within the county.

Nez Perce County has experienced modest growth with most of the growth occurring in the City of Lewiston.

**TABLE 1a - Population by Cities and Counties**

County, ID	City	1970	1980	1990	2000	2002*	2003*	2004*	2005*	2006*
<b>Latah</b>		24,898	28,749	30,617	34,935	34,819	34,897	35,036	34,714	35,029
	Bovill	350	289	256	305	229	294	293	285	280
	Deary	411	539	529	552	539	528	524	515	522
	Genessee	619	791	725	946	922	903	898	879	861
	Juliaetta	423	522	488	609	594	582	578	561	555
	Kendrick	426	395	325	369	361	355	353	344	338
	Moscow	14,146	16,513	18,398	21,291	21,431	21,705	21,869	21,862	22,352
	Onaway	166	254	203	230	226	222	221	215	211
	Potlatch	871	819	790	791	773	758	755	735	722
	Troy	541	820	699	798	781	767	764	744	735
<b>Nez Perce</b>		30,376	33,220	33,754	37,410	37,165	37,655	37,730	37,931	38,324
	Culdesac	211	261	280	378	372	374	372	375	375
	Lapwai	400	1,043	932	1,134	1,113	1,121	1,116	1,116	1,117
	Lewiston	26,068	27,986	28,082	30,904	30,542	30,913	30,952	31,081	31,293
	Peck	238	209	160	186	183	184	183	184	184
<b>ID State</b>		713,015	944,127	1,006,734	1,293,953	-	1,368,111	1,395,140	1,429,096	1,466,465

\*Estimate  
Source: <http://labor.idaho.gov>  
Rev. 11-07

## MEDIAN AGE

The median age of the population continues to be older than the state or national average for three of the four counties in the District. Whitman's median age is substantially lower due to the younger student population at Washington State University. The same is true for Latah County and the student population at the University of Idaho.

**TABLE 2 - Median Age, USA, WA, and ID 1980-2007**

	1980	1990	2000	2003*	2004*	2005*	2006*	2007*
<b>County, WA</b>								
Asotin	30.8	34.8	38.8	39.9	40.2	40.6	40.8	41.0
Columbia	37.1	38.9	42.4	43.8	44.3	44.8	45.1	45.5
Garfield	36.9	41.0	43.0	44.1	44.6	45.0	45.3	45.6
Whitman	24.0	24.5	24.7	24.8	24.8	24.8	24.8	24.9
<b>WA State</b>	29.8	32.8	35.3	36.0	36.2	36.5	36.6	36.7
<b>USA</b>	30.0	32.6	35.3	35.9	36.0	36.2	36.4	36.6
<b>County, ID</b>								
Latah	25.4	27.4	27.9					28.8
Nez Perce	30.8	35.6	38.1					40.0
<b>ID State</b>	27.5	31.2	33.2		34.3			

\* Estimate

Source: [www.ofm.wa.gov](http://www.ofm.wa.gov), [www.idahoworks.org](http://www.idahoworks.org), [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)  
Rev. 10-07

## GENDER COMPOSITION

The female population makes up 50% to 52% of the population in the non-university counties. Whitman County, including Washington State University, has a male population of just over 50%.

**TABLE 3 - Gender Composition by County 2002-2007**

	2002* Male	2002* Female	2003* Male	2003* Female	2004* Male	2004* Female	2005* Male	2005* Female	2006* Male	2006* Female	2007* Male	2007* Female
<b>County, WA</b>												
Asotin	9869	10,831	9820	10,780	9867	10,833	9962	10,938	10,058	11,042	10,155	11,145
Columbia	2,001	2,099	2,001	2,099	2,001	2,099	2,002	2,098	2,003	2,097	2,003	2,097
Garfield	1,189	1,211	1,190	1,210	1,190	1,210	1,191	1,209	1,192	1,208	1,167	1,183
Whitman	20,546	20,054	20,761	20,239	21,120	20,580	21,479	20,921	21,693	21,107	21,642	21,058
<b>WA State</b>	3,008,776	3,032,934	3,037,216	3,061,084	3,072,237	3,095,563	3,117,023	3,139,377	3,174,936	3,195,787	3,232,603	3,252,006

\* Estimate

Source: [www.ofm.wa.gov](http://www.ofm.wa.gov)  
Rev. 1-08

# RACIAL COMPOSITION

All four counties within the Palouse Economic Development District saw an increase in diversity based on census year numbers. The 2006 estimate shows an increase in most categories of diversity; however, the total minority population has decreased in each county, as total population increased. According to the Washington State Office of Financial Management, data for 2007 is not available.

**TABLE 4 - Racial Composition by County 1990-2006**

County, WA	Asotin			Columbia			Garfield			Whitman		
	1990	2000	2006	1990	2000	2006	1990	2000	2006	1990	2000	2006
<b>White</b>	17,136	19,650	20,286	3,874	3,809	3,965	2,222	2,312	2,337	35,653	35,880	37,776
<b>Black</b>	38	39	55	1	9	10	0	0	0	490	623	742
<b>American Indian, Eskimo &amp; Aleut</b>	260	260	283	27	39	42	12	9	10	248	298	330
<b>Asian &amp; Pacific Islanders</b>	107	110	137	16	19	23	7	17	22	2,112	2,369	2,976
<b>*Hispanic</b>	278	401	471	463	258	298	22	47	59	683	1219	1410
<b>2 or More</b>	64	492	339	106	188	61	7	59	31	272	1570	976
<b>Population Total</b>	17,605	20,551	21,100	4,024	4,064	4,100	2,248	2,397	2,400	38,775	40,740	42,800
<b>Total % Minority</b>	2.66	4.38	3.88	3.73	6.27	3.32	1.16	3.55	2.63	8.05	11.93	11.73

County, ID	Latah		Nez Perce	
	1990	2000	1990	2000
<b>White</b>	29,388	32,817	31,681	34,260
<b>Black</b>	174	206	48	105
<b>American Indian, Eskimo &amp; Aleut</b>	206	262	1692	1988
<b>Asian &amp; Pacific Islanders</b>	709	765	211	272
<b>*Hispanic</b>	449	740	419	721
<b>2 or More</b>	140	885	122	785
<b>Population Total</b>	30,617	34,935	33,754	37,410
<b>Total % Minority</b>	4.0	6.1	6.0	8.4

\* Hispanic category not in minority total  
 Source: [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov), [www.ofm.wa.gov](http://www.ofm.wa.gov)  
 Rev. 12-06

# EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Educational Attainment information shows that since 1980, a larger percentage of people are attending and/or graduating from college. The effect of Washington State University on Whitman County is evident in that 52% of people over 25 have graduated from college.

**TABLE 5 - Educational Attainment in Population 25 Years and Over 1980-2000**

	Less than 9 <sup>th</sup> grade			Some high school, no diploma			High school graduate ONLY			High school graduate or Higher		Some college, no degree			College graduate with degree			
	1980	1990	2000	1980	1990	2000	1980	1990	2000	1990	2000	1980	1990	2000	1980	1990	2000	
<b>County, WA</b>																		
<b>Asotin</b>	13%	8%	3%	13%	15%	11%	44%	34%	33%	77%	86%	18%	23%	28%	23%	21%	25%	
<b>Columbia</b>	12%	14%	5%	16%	14%	12%	46%	29%	31%	72%	83%	19%	18%	28%	7%	25%	25%	
<b>Garfield</b>	12%	6%	6%	11%	12%	9%	39%	34%	30%	82%	84%	24%	21%	26%	13%	26%	29%	
<b>Whitman</b>	7%	4%	2%	7%	5%	5%	27%	21%	19%	91%	93%	22%	21%	22%	37%	49%	52%	
<b>WA State</b>		5%	4%		11%	9%		28%	25%		84%	87%		25%	26%		31%	36%
<b>County, ID</b>																		
<b>Latah</b>		5%	3%		8%	6%		23%	23%		87%	91%		21%	21%		43%	48%
<b>Nez Perce</b>		7%	4%		13%	11%		31%	32%		80%	86%		23%	21%		25%	28%
<b>ID State</b>		7%	5%		13%	10%		30%	29%		80%	85%		24%	27%		25%	29%

Source: [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)  
Rev. 12-07

## MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

In the 2007 projected figures, all four counties were lagging behind Washington State's median household income. The counties' median household income levels range from 60% - 73% of the State's median.

**TABLE 6 - Median Household Income by County 1990-2007**

	1990	1995*	2000	2002*	2003*	2004*	2005*	2006*	2007*
<b>County, WA</b>									
<b>Asotin</b>	24,206	28,288	35,007	37,491	38,067	37,926	38,746	40,626	42,984
<b>Columbia</b>	24,478	29,860	37,388	35,695	35,775	34,484	33,686	38,506	42,233
<b>Garfield</b>	26,534	30,435	38,502	36,195	38,264	36,977	33,509	37,466	40,268
<b>Whitman</b>	22,949	26,270	31,639	31,213	32,590	33,083	33,131	33,163	35,589
<b>WA State</b>	33,416	38,996	48,300	49,958	50,779	53,530	53,697	56,079	58,462
<b>County, ID</b>	<b>1990</b>		<b>2000</b>			<b>2004*</b>			
<b>Latah</b>	22,635		32,524			36,346			
<b>Nez Perce</b>	25,219		36,282			38,526			

\* Estimate

Source: [www.ofm.wa.gov](http://www.ofm.wa.gov) , [www.idahoworks.org](http://www.idahoworks.org)  
Rev. 1-08

## PER CAPITA INCOME

Per Capita Income is computed by dividing the total income of the population by the total population. Per Capita Income 1980-2005, compares the per capita income of each county in the District with the state.

All of the counties except one (Asotin) in the District experienced a decrease in Per Capita Income during the 2004-2005 period. The counties lag behind the state's level by 23% to 47%. Whitman County figures are impacted by the large unemployed student population.

**TABLE 7 - Per Capita Income 1980-2005**

	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000*	2001*	2002*	2003*	2004*	2005*
<b>County, WA</b>										
<b>Asotin</b>	9,395	11,569	14,882	18,238	23,715	25,511	25,816	26,629	26,794	27,469
<b>Columbia</b>	11,404	13,965	16,321	21,199	27,584	27,508	26,208	26,520	25,788	25,248
<b>Garfield</b>	13,356	15,585	18,242	19,630	24,225	22,755	22,547	24,289	23,616	18,928
<b>Whitman</b>	8,493	11,391	13,338	15,540	19,813	19,500	19,464	20,698	21,276	21,219
<b>WA State</b>	10,832	14,755	19,865	23,690	31,775	32,274	32,528	33,105	34,956	35,479
<b>County, ID</b>										
<b>Latah</b>	8,169	10,459	14,325	17,296	21,246	22,901	23,665	23,727	25,592	26,458
<b>Nez Perce</b>	9,541	12,871	16,878	20,335	24,899	25,740	25,491	26,161	27,884	28,504
<b>ID State</b>	8,648	11,641	15,724	19,426	24,073	25,014	25,180	25,461	27,414	28,478

\* Estimate

Source: [www.bea.gov](http://www.bea.gov), <http://community.idaho.gov>  
Rev. 10-07

## Poverty Rates

The 2000 Census showed the percentage of Washington families below the poverty level was 7.3% and the percentage of individuals living below the poverty level was 10.6%. Washington's poverty level (individuals) was at 11.6% in 2004. All four of the counties in our District and the two border counties in Idaho experienced a higher rate of poverty than the State of Washington. However, when comparing the percent of individuals who are over 65 years of age and living in poverty (2000 census), Asotin and Whitman Counties are exceptions. Whitman County figures are also impacted by the large unemployed student population.

**TABLE 8 - Poverty Status 2000, 2004**

	2000 - # of families below Federal	2000 - # of individuals 65+ below Federal poverty level	2000 - # of individuals below Federal poverty level	2004 - # of individuals below Federal poverty level
<b>County, WA</b>				
<b>Asotin</b>	657 11.6%	216 6.7%	3132 15.4%	3242 15.4%
<b>Columbia</b>	98 8.6%	80 11.1%	507 12.6%	489 12.0%
<b>Garfield</b>	82 12.0%	48 10.2%	334 14.2%	283 12.3%
<b>Whitman</b>	890 11.0%	199 5.5%	9,027 25.6%	5,895 16.6%
<b>WA State</b>	110,663 7.3%	47,967 7.5%	612,370 10.6%	715,271 11.6%
<b>County, ID</b>				
<b>Latah</b>	7.7%		16.7%	4,137 13.5%
<b>Nez Perce</b>	11.9%		12.2%	4,445 11.9%

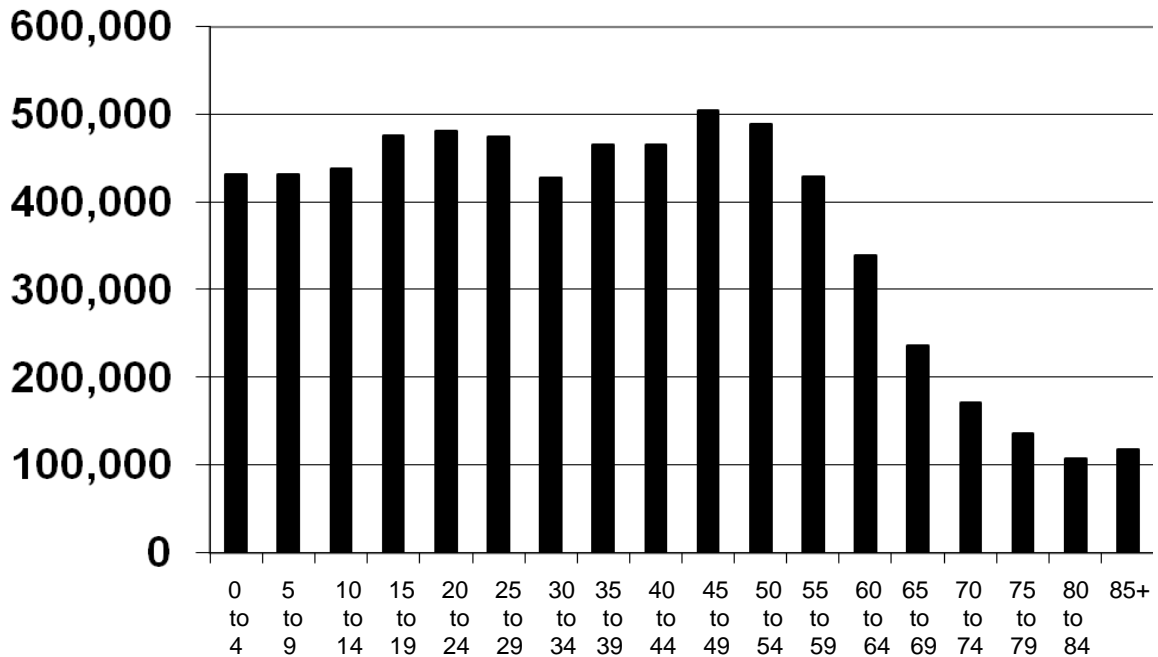
**Source:** [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov), [www.idahoworks.com](http://www.idahoworks.com)  
Rev. 12-07

# LABOR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

## POPULATION DISTRIBUTION BY AGE

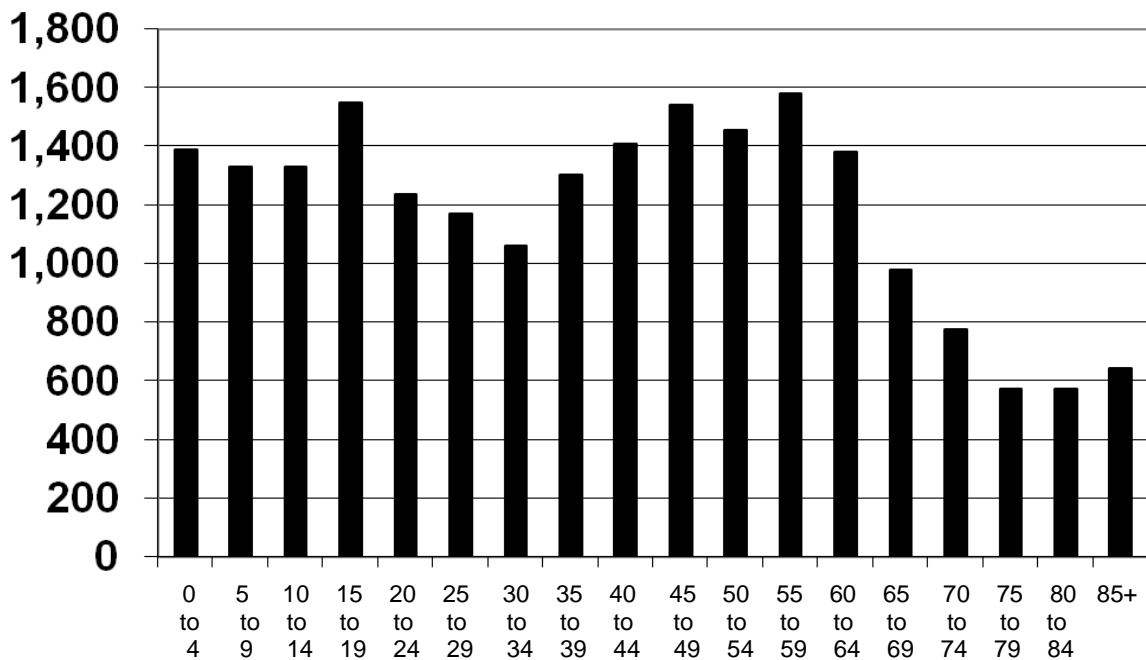
The following graphs illustrate the population divided into five year groupings based on age. The Washington State graph shows a slight dip in the 25 to 34 age grouping and a steep decline at age 55 and above. The population dips significantly at age 20 in Asotin, Columbia, and Garfield Counties; Whitman County, with its large population of college students, is the anomaly. The population declines at age 55+ in Asotin, Columbia, and Whitman Counties but actually increases in Garfield County.

Washington Population by five year age groupings, 2007

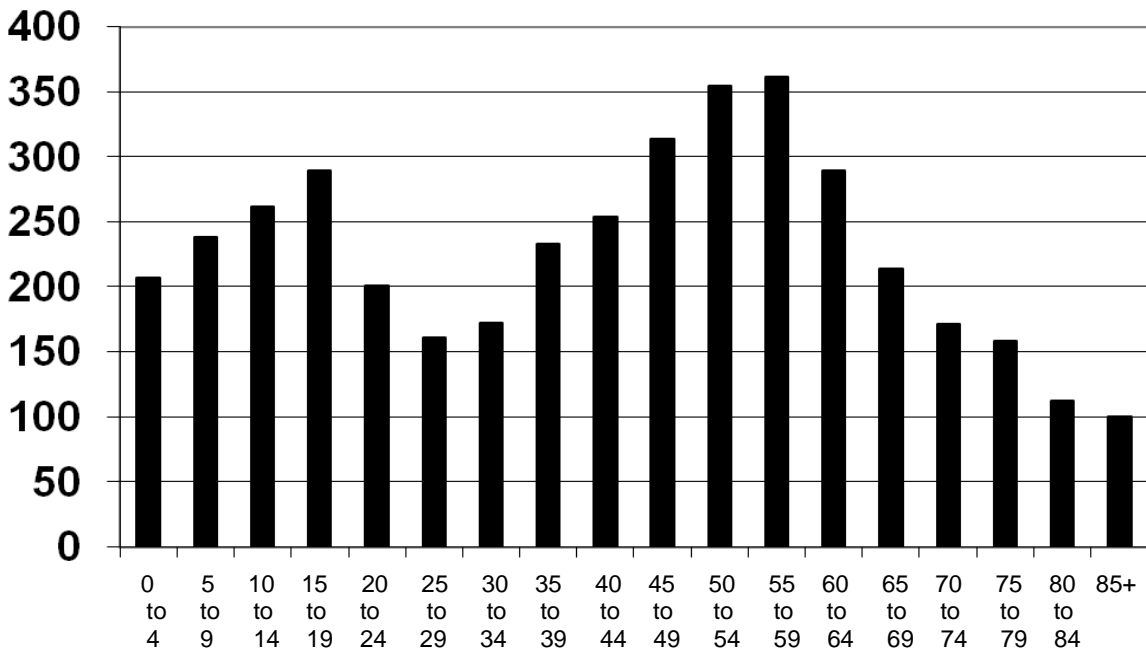


Source: [www.ofm.wa.gov](http://www.ofm.wa.gov)  
Rev. 10-07

Asotin County Population by five year age groupings, 2007

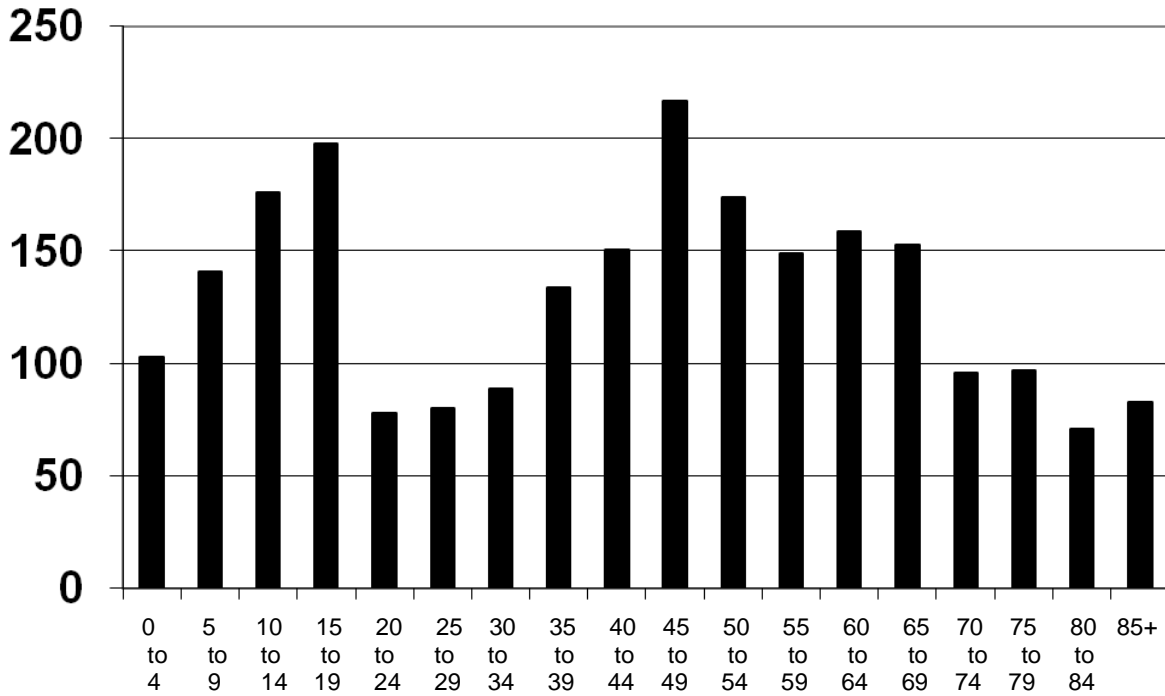


Columbia County Population by five year age groupings, 2007

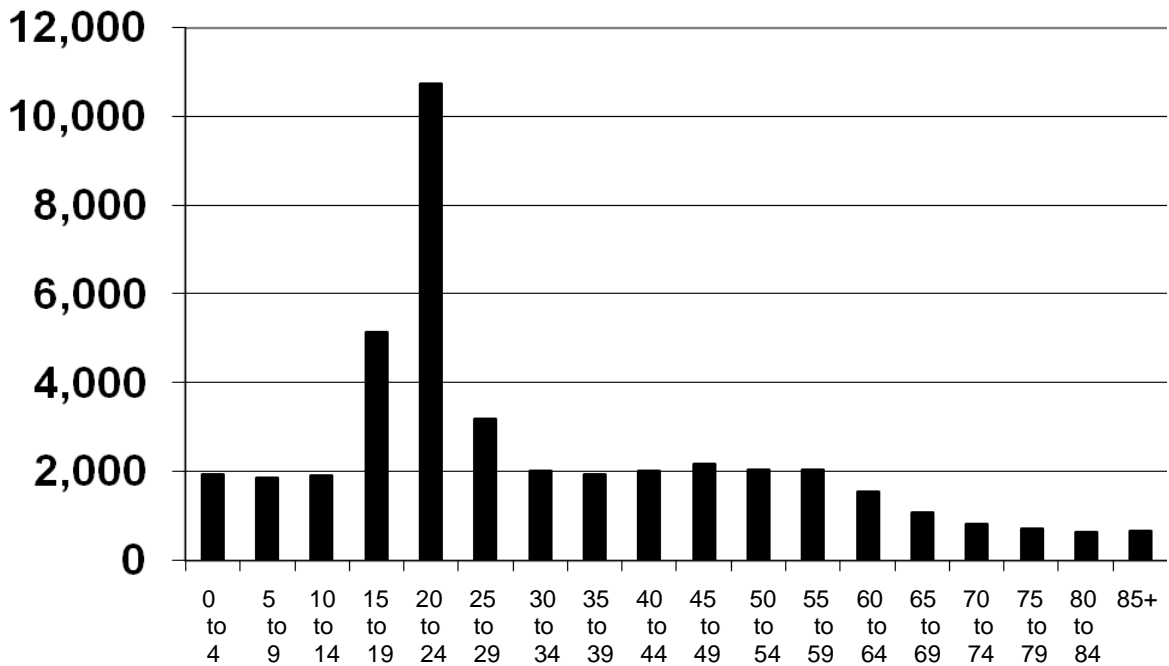


Source: [www.ofm.wa.gov](http://www.ofm.wa.gov)  
Rev. 10-07

Garfield County Population by five year age groupings, 2007



Whitman County Population by five year age groupings, 2007



Source: [www.ofm.wa.gov](http://www.ofm.wa.gov)  
Rev. 10-07

## LABOR FORCE

The Washington State Employment Security Department revises its calculation formulas every year for Labor Market Information. The numbers contained in this table are not comparable to similar tables contained in prior versions of the District's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy document.

The labor force increased in all counties during 2007 except for Garfield County. Columbia County saw a significant decrease in the unemployment rate during the last year.

**TABLE 9 - Civilian Labor Force and Unemployment Rate 1980-2007**

County, WA	1980	1990	2000	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<b>Asotin</b>								
Labor Force	8,630	9,370	11,720	12,310	10,120	10,370	9,870	10,340
Unemp. Rate	9.3	5.0	4.6	6.4	6.6	7.3	4.0	3.8
<b>Columbia</b>								
Labor Force	2,130	1,480	1,510	1,340	1,690	1,870	1,460	1,510
Unemp. Rate	10.7	12.2	11.1	9.6	8.3	7.1	7.7	5.9
<b>Garfield</b>								
Labor Force	1,190	1,060	1,140	1,210	1,160	1,120	1,050	1,030
Unemp. Rate	7.7	3.0	4.2	4.4	5.2	5.8	4.7	4.5
<b>Whitman</b>								
Labor Force	15,640	17,420	19,220	19,570	20,570	21,050	21,140	21,570
Unemp. Rate	2.9	1.5	2.2	2.5	4.4	4.4	3.7	3.5
<b>WA State</b>								
Labor Force	1,984,000	2,538,000	3,050,500	3,115,400	3,233,600	3,264,600	3,357,500	3,457,400
Unemp. Rate	7.9	4.9	5.2	7.3	6.2	5.5	5.0	4.2

Source: [www.workforceexplorer.com](http://www.workforceexplorer.com)  
Rev. 12-07

# LARGEST EMPLOYERS

A listing of each county's largest employers is provided in the following table. This includes both public and private employers. Employment figures reported are as of 12/31/07.

**TABLE 10 - Largest employers in the PEDD area by number of employees  
(2007 figures include regular, part-time)**

Rev. 1-08

Employer	2006	2007
<b>Asotin County, WA</b>		
Clarkston School District	450	447
Tri-State Memorial Hospital	337	358
Asotin County	150	293
Federal Government*	Not reported	243
Costco	120	175
Albertson's	115	115
DeAtley Company	113	100
Asotin School District	83	87
Renaissance Marine Group	75	80
<b>Columbia County, WA</b>		
Dayton General Hospital	137	142
Ski Bluewood	123	121
Federal Government*	66	114
Columbia County	94	81
Dayton Public Schools	99	79
Columbia Cut Stock, Inc.	33	33
<b>Garfield County, WA</b>		
Federal Government*	112	173
Garfield County	140	140
Garfield Co. Memorial Hospital	88	100
Pomeroy Public Schools	66	64
Dye Seed Ranch, Inc.	60	55
<b>Whitman County, WA</b>		
Washington State University	5,678	6,453
Schweitzer Engineering	1,080	1,102
Federal Government*	279	359
Pullman Hospital	325	350
McGregor's	132	340
Whitman County	250	271
Pullman School District	275	260
City of Pullman	175	213
Whitman Community Hospital	194	200
Safeway Stores	110	200
Dissmore's IGA	120	140
Student Book Corporation	132	136
Shopko	120	120
<b>Latah County, ID</b>		
University of Idaho	2,870	2,511
Gritman Medical Center	450	460
Moscow School District	350	360
Wal-Mart	200	235
City of Moscow	128	130
<b>Nez Perce County, ID</b>		
Potlatch	2,100	2,100
Alliant Techsystems	835	995
St. Joseph Regional Hospital	835	870
Lewis-Clark State College	450	837
Regence Blue Shield	Not reported	732
City of Lewiston	302	350
Clearwater Casino	Not reported	250
Northwest Children's Home, Inc.	200	197
Lewiston Tribune	165	134
Swift Transportation, Inc.	430	100

\* Federal Government = Current employees + Retirees

Source: [http://www.eyeonwashington.com/few\\_map\\_2006/index.html](http://www.eyeonwashington.com/few_map_2006/index.html)

## MEAN & MEDIAN WAGES

The mean wage is the average wage that is calculated by adding together all the wages in a particular classification and dividing by the number of wage earners. The median wage represents the wage that is in the middle with half the wages being greater and half being less.

**TABLE 11 - Eastern Washington Wage Estimates as of March 2007**

Job Title	Asotin County			Other Eastern Counties*		
	Mean Wage	Median Wage	Median Annual	Mean Wage	Median Wage	Median Annual
Accountants and Auditors	-	-	-	25.82	23.95	53,697
Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	-	-	-	17.90	18.07	37,222
Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks	14.42	14.03	30,001	14.21	13.95	29,555
Carpenters	26.83	26.75	55,804	15.80	15.04	32,866
Cashiers	12.01	10.59	24,971	9.93	9.07	20,675
Computer Programmers	-	-	-	19.51	16.52	40,581
Construction Laborers	16.14	15.04	33,558	15.61	14.32	32,482
Electrical/Electronics Repairers, Industrial Equipment	-	-	-	23.87	22.50	49,648
Food Preparation & Serving Wkrs, 1 <sup>st</sup> -Ln Sprvs/Mgrs	14.56	13.66	30,277	16.63	15.20	34,604
General and Operations Managers	56.41	49.59	117,319	50.26	46.08	104,536
Human Resources Assistants (not payroll & timekeeping)	-	-	-	16.24	16.42	33,788
Industrial Machinery Mechanics	-	-	-	24.77	22.86	51,522
Industrial Production Managers	-	-	-	54.08	51.25	112,495
Janitors and Cleaners (except maids & housekeeping cleaners)	11.95	11.28	24,855	-	-	-
Landscape, Lawn, Groundskeep Wkrs, 1 <sup>st</sup> -line Supvrs/Mgrs	12.25	11.07	25,465	21.01	18.18	43,705
Lawyers	-	-	-	39.24	32.98	81,619
Machinists	-	-	-	16.39	16.02	34,089
Maintenance & Repair Wkrs, General	16.85	16.82	35,042	16.61	15.89	34,536
Mechanical Engineers	-	-	-	33.83	33.23	70,374
Medical Transcriptionists	-	-	-	14.98	14.81	31,171
Office Clerks, General	12.76	12.11	26,534	13.01	12.15	27,061
Police & Sheriff's Patrol Officers	27.31	27.01	56,808	20.39	19.06	42,422
Purchasing Agents (except Wholesale, Retail, & Farm Products)	-	-	-	24.55	23.70	51,059
Retail Salespersons	12.13	10.90	25,225	12.33	10.47	25,655
Sales Managers	-	-	-	61.18	56.30	127,248
Sales Representatives, Services, All Other	-	-	-	21.81	23.05	45,354
Teachers and Instructors, All Other	-	-	-	13.87	13.52	28,838
Training & Development Specialists	-	-	-	21.70	21.93	45,140
Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	19.22	20.17	39,984	16.81	15.63	34,950
Truck Drivers, Light or Delivery Services	-	-	-	13.54	12.43	28,165
Waiters and Waitresses	11.18	11.62	23,254	11.22	11.79	23,352
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	-	-	-	18.96	17.62	39,426

**Source:** *www.workforceexplorer.com, Rev. 12-07*

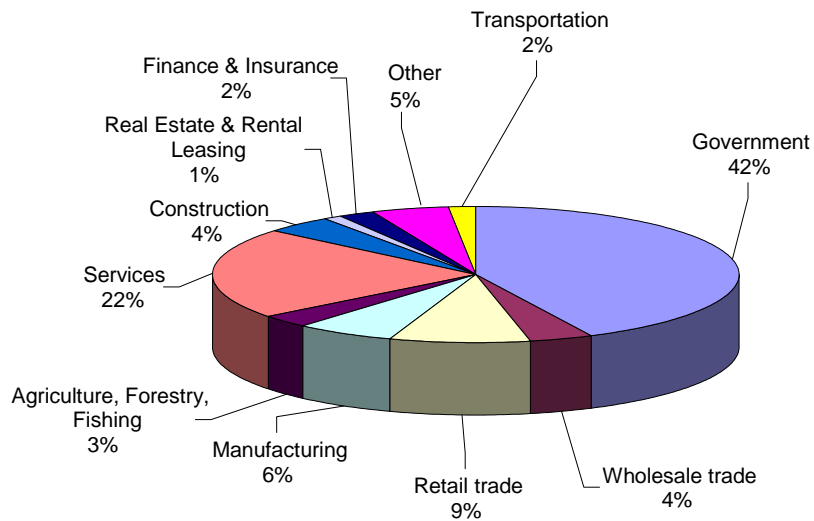
\* Includes Columbia, Ferry, Garfield, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Stevens, Walla Walla, and Whitman Counties  
A dash ( - ) means not reported

# LABOR FORCE BY INDUSTRY

The Government is the largest employment industry in the PEDD. This is due to the predominance of K-12 and higher education, federal government agencies, and city and county government employment.

Another significant industry of employment is Services.

**Number of Employees in the PEDD Area 2006, by Industry**



**PEDD = Asotin, Columbia, Garfield, and Whitman Counties, WA**

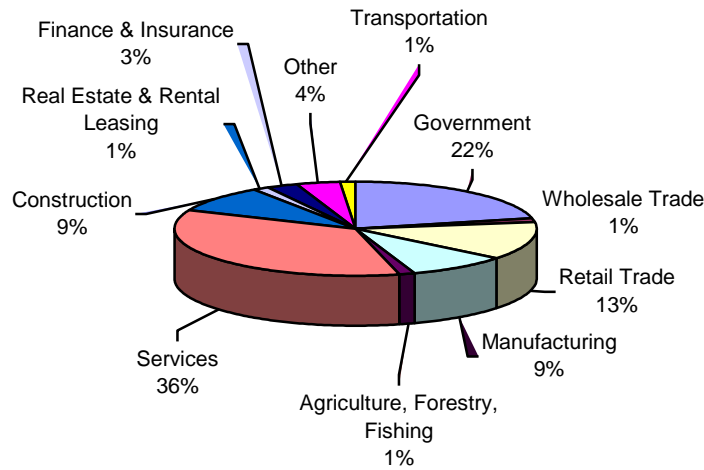
**Source:** [www.workforceexplorer.com](http://www.workforceexplorer.com)  
Rev. 12-07

# MAJOR INDUSTRIES AND EMPLOYEES BY COUNTY

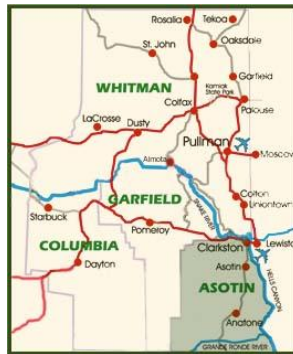
## Asotin County

The service and government sectors remain stable and provide the highest percentages of the Asotin County workforce. Manufacturing saw a slight increase during the past year.

Number of Employees in Asotin County 2006, by Industry



Source: [www.workforceexplorer.com](http://www.workforceexplorer.com)  
Rev. 12-07



Asotin County is located at the confluence of the Clearwater and Snake Rivers. As a far inland seaport, the Snake River east and south of Clarkston contains Hells Canyon and defines the Washington/Idaho borders.

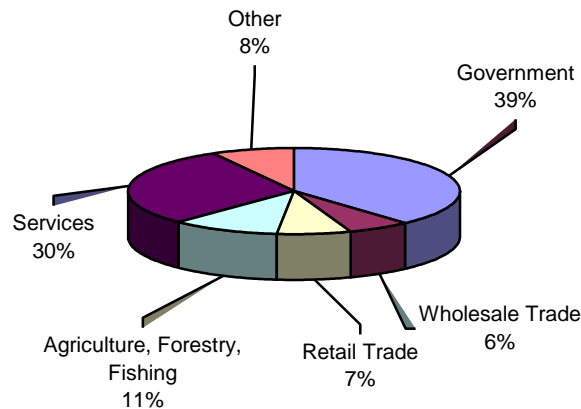
Three ports are within the immediate area with adequate industrial land for business growth and expansion. The highway system provides access to Idaho and the southern tier of Washington, as well as the northern tier of Oregon, with connections to north-south and east-west interstates.

The southern part of the county is heavily forested, containing part of the Umatilla National Forest. The region has a safe, rural, educated lifestyle, with small-town hospitality and a commitment to commerce.

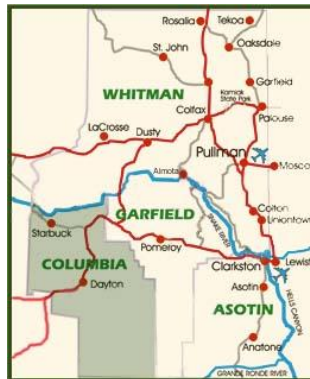
## Columbia County

All industries (except for "Other") have experienced increases within the last year in the Columbia County workforce. Government and Services are the largest industries, similar to Asotin County.

Number of Employees in Columbia County 2006, by Industry



Source: [www.workforceexplorer.com](http://www.workforceexplorer.com)  
Rev. 12-07



Columbia County is located at the western edge of the PEDD and has railroad, highway, river, and telecommunication access.

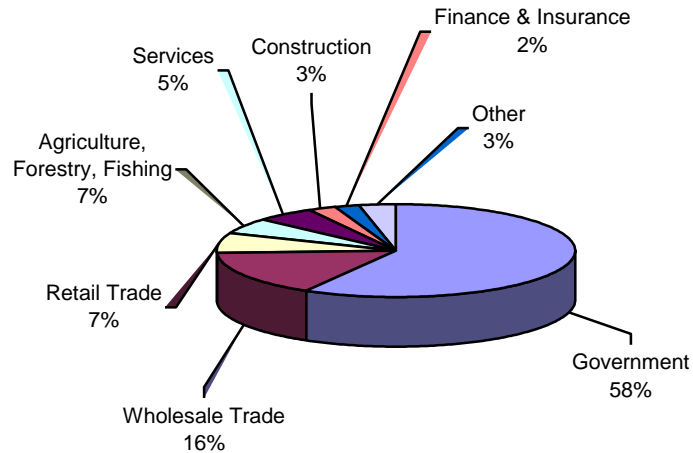
The northern border of the county is the Snake River that connects the county to ports along the Columbia River and Portland, OR; Highway 12 connects trucking companies with major transportation routes such as Interstates 82 and 84; and Blue Mountain Railroad connects Dayton with two other major railroads.

High speed Internet links the county with the world, and the Blue Mountains, in the southern part of the county, provide people with access to outdoor recreation opportunities.

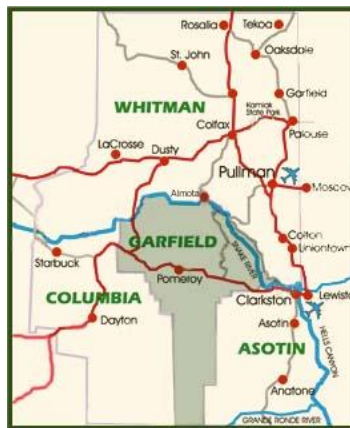
## Garfield County

Various units of government employ the largest portion of Garfield County's workforce, with another large industry of the county's workforce in wholesale trade.

Number of Employees in Garfield County 2006, by Industry



Source: [www.workforceexplorer.com](http://www.workforceexplorer.com)  
Rev. 12-07



Garfield County is located between Asotin and Columbia counties in southeastern Washington. It is a geographically diverse region bordered on the north by the Snake River and on the south by the Blue Mountains.

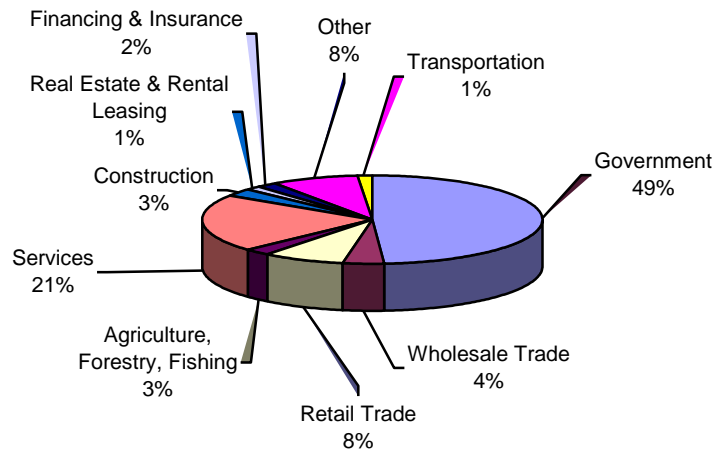
Historically an agricultural region, the business economy is based largely in government and wholesale trade. The pioneer history of the area is preserved in its historic houses, buildings, and family farms. The county supports a port district that utilizes waterway transport along the Snake River and is serviced by overland transportation via U.S. Hwy.12, with connections to major interstates.

Community pride is evident in its friendly customer service, quality K-12 education system, local health services, and recreational opportunities.

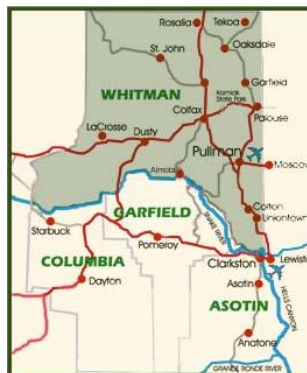
# Whitman County

In Whitman County, the largest segment of the population is employed in the government sector. This sector includes Washington State University and the public schools. Another significant segment of the workforce is employed in the services industry.

**Number of Employees in Whitman County 2006, by Industry**



**Source:** [www.workforceexplorer.com](http://www.workforceexplorer.com)  
Rev. 12-07



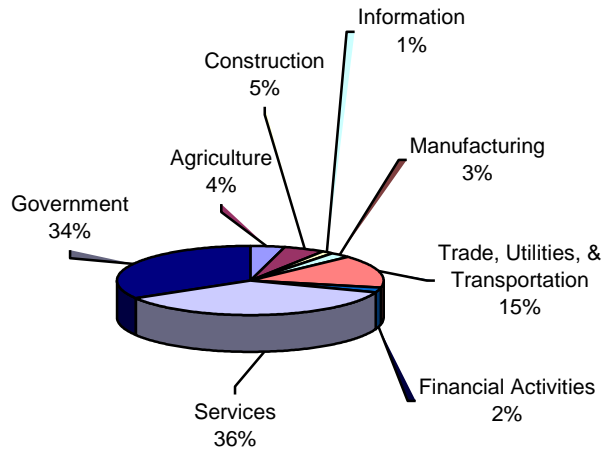
Pullman is the largest city in the County, and is home to Washington State University (WSU is the largest employer in the entire PEDD). In addition, fifteen other incorporated cities throughout the county offer small town and rural life styles.

A growing industry in Pullman is the field of research and biotechnology. The close proximity of the two research universities, Washington State University and the University of Idaho (located eight miles east of Pullman), provides numerous business opportunities for the region.

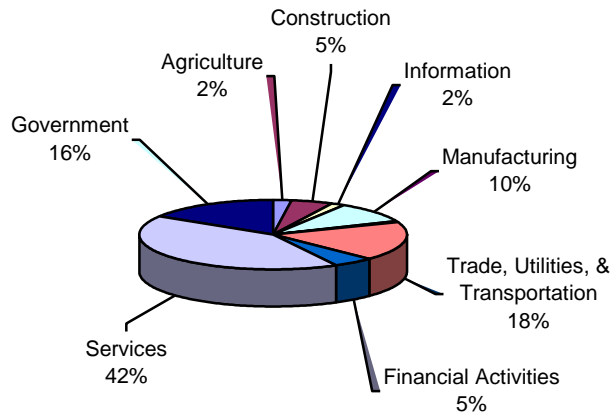
Outside of Pullman, the vast majority of the county is rich farmland known for its wheat production.

# IDAHO BORDERING COUNTIES

Number of Employees in Latah County, ID 2006, by Industry



Number of Employees in Nez Perce County, ID 2006, by Industry



Source: [www.idahoworks.org](http://www.idahoworks.org)  
Rev. 12-07

Latah and Nez Perce counties border Whitman and Asotin counties, thus, labor pools are shared.

# LAND USE CLASSIFICATIONS

Common designations of land use within the PEDD are: rural residential, agricultural, recreational, commercial, heavy and light industrial, woodlands, range land, forest land, urban, watershed, and public.

## COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

Commercial and Industrial zoning classifications provide for the development and location of businesses that are typically private sector and income-producing. Both classifications bring the benefit of outside dollars into our region.

## INDUSTRIAL SITES AND PARKS

Manufacturers and distribution firms are primary users of industrial sites and parks. Established sites and parks for industrial use are predominately developed within the PEDD by port districts.

### Asotin County – Port of Clarkston

The Port of Clarkston owns 77 acres of prime flat property in the historic “port district” within the city limits of Clarkston and leases from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers an additional 42 acres bordering the Snake River. Development within the Port includes:

- an industrial area where tenants lease land and sometimes buildings
- a river terminal with a 140 ton Lima crane for loading barges with containers, logs, sawdust, and chips
- a grain elevator
- a marina
- a public park
- a 570-foot long tour boat dock that currently accommodates tours by eight different cruise boat companies
- a dock serving as a base for jet boat tours up Hells Canyon
- a hotel/convention center
- a golf facility with a driving range and putting green
- a highly-rated RV Resort just about to expand from 79 spaces to over 100

The Port has 12 acres of land yet available for development with water, sewer, gas, power, and paved roads. It is expecting, within the next 12 months, to purchase and develop additional acreage that would be located outside the historic “port district.”

It is the mission of the Port of Clarkston to fully use its statutory authority to:

- Deliver property, facilities, and infrastructure that encourage private investment, create wealth for constituents, create family wage jobs, diversify and stabilize the local economy, and create a sustainable environment;
- Play a leadership role in ensuring that waterfronts are vibrant, active centerpieces for the communities in the locality and partner on improving other tourism and recreation opportunities;
- Preserve and better the quality of life for the citizens of Asotin County.

*More information is available at: [www.portofclarkston.com](http://www.portofclarkston.com)*

## **Columbia County – Port of Columbia**

The Port of Columbia owns and manages an industrial park at the west end of Dayton. There are 15 leaseable units in the Rock Hill Industrial Tracts 1 and 2. At the present time there is no available industrial space to rent, making the construction of a new building imminent. This building is expected to be complete by the end of 2008, and will have three bays available for lease. Three buildable lots are available in the Rock Hill Industrial Park, and the Port has previously been successful with build-to-suit projects. 175 acres of land zoned Heavy Industrial at Lyons Ferry on the Snake River has rail service, electrical power, and natural gas. This acreage is privately owned, but has great development potential.

The Port also manages the Seneca Business and Industrial Park, a privately owned facility that once housed an asparagus cannery. It includes approximately 50,000 square feet of warehouse space and 30,000 square feet of food-grade production space that are available for lease through the Port, as well as 4,500 square feet of office space. This facility has great potential.

The Port of Columbia operates the 37-acre Lyons Ferry Marina on the Snake River with camping, RV accommodations, fuel, a restaurant, groceries, and covered moorage. The concessionaire at the Lyons Ferry Marina also leases and operates the 140-acre Lyons Ferry Park on the north side of the Snake River with a boat launch, swimming and camping areas, and a food concession during the summer season.

The Port owns 39 miles of railroad tracks stretching from Dayton to Walla Walla, with the primary shippers being Northwest Grain Growers and Seneca Foods. The tracks are scheduled for a state-funded rehabilitation project starting in 2008 and ending in 2013.

*More information is available at [www.portofcolumbia.org](http://www.portofcolumbia.org)*

## **Garfield County – Port of Garfield**

The Port of Garfield owns several sites in Garfield County: (1) the Central Ferry Site, (2) the U. S. Forest Service Administration Building, and (3) the DSP Industrial Site.

### CENTRAL FERRY

This river site is located on Highway 127 at Central Ferry. The 80-acre site has only 3.5 acres developed to accommodate grain barges for the Pomeroy Grain Growers. A small boating dock sits west of the grain elevators, and the remaining acres are hillside.

### U. S. FOREST SERVICE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

In 1986 the Port constructed a 5,000 square foot log façade administration building for the U. S. Forest Service, located on Highway 12 at the west end of Pomeroy. In a few short years the Forest Service out-grew this facility, and in 1993 the building was expanded to 10,000 square feet. The U.S. Government's lease of this facility from the Port of Garfield expires in October 2008 with renewal options for another five years.

### DSP INDUSTRIAL SITE

The only industrial site in Garfield County is a 33-acre site located at the west end of Pomeroy. In 2005, the port constructed a new access road and bridge, west of the Forest Service building, crossing Pataha Creek and connecting the site to Highway 12. This site is divided into two sections: approximately 10 acres for recreation and 23 acres for industrial development.

The recreation site consists of eight acres supporting three ball fields with restrooms, and adjacent to the ball fields is a small campground and RV park to be opened in 2008

Of the industrial area's 23 acres, approximately 10 acres have existing facilities and are presently being leased. The remaining acres are currently undeveloped. The existing facilities are:

- 21,460 square foot brick facility with 3,000 square feet of offices, lunchroom, and restrooms. The remaining 18,000 square feet is for warehousing and manufacturing.
- 15,600 square foot metal warehousing facility.
- 5,400 square foot facility being renovated for mini or RV storage and a small shop on one end.
- 9,525 square foot metal warehousing facility with 2-phase wiring.
- A new 4,800 square foot facility is scheduled to be constructed in 2008, and will be used for business recruitment. The facility will consist of two 2,400 square foot units, one turn-key and the other to be completed to suit at a later time.

On the northeast portion of the DSP site, several acres are targeted for a full-hookup RV park. This park will be completed when the need arises.

*More information is available at: [www.portofgarfield.com](http://www.portofgarfield.com)*

## **Whitman County – Ports of Whitman, Wilma, Central Ferry, Almota**

The Port of Whitman County manages three on-water industrial parks along the Snake River and two off-water industrial parks in Pullman and Colfax.

The Port of Wilma includes 275 acres and is the largest and busiest of the on-water port sites. It is located directly across the Snake River from Lewiston, Idaho, and Clarkston, Washington. A 2003 expansion added 30 acres, a new water line, and fiber-optic access allowing the site to offer additional services and room for industrial business growth. The facility also features water and sewer systems, rail access, water access, and most utilities.

The Port of Central Ferry's 131-acre on-water site is located adjacent to State Highway 127, 56 miles north of Walla Walla. It offers rail and county road access, and most utilities are available on-site.

The Port of Almota is the smallest of the Port of Whitman's industrial parks. The 10.5-acre site is located on the Snake River at Almota and offers access to water and county roads. Almota is at maximum capacity with no room for expansion.

The Pullman Industrial Park, a 107-acre site, is located in Pullman near Washington State University and just fifteen minutes from the University of Idaho in Moscow, Idaho. It is home to a number of research and development and technology companies including Whitman County's second largest employer, Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories. The Park was designated an Innovation Partnership Zone by the State and received \$1 million in funding. Part of that funding was used to purchase additional acreage for expansion of the park. Truck access is available on-site with commercial air access ten minutes away at the Pullman-Moscow Regional Airport. City water, sewer, roads, electrical service, and natural gas are available.

The Port of Whitman Business Air Center consists of a small general aviation airport and industrial park (34 acres divided into 12 lots) located four miles from State Highway 195, near Colfax. The taxiway was upgraded and paved in 2007. Aviation fuel is available through a private party on site. The complex features access to all utilities, fiber-optic access, water system, drain field, truck and direct-air access, and rail siding access within one mile.

The Port of Whitman's Boyer Park and Marina is located on the shores of the Snake River. The full-service Park boasts 56 acres with a 150 slip marina, 48 RV campsites with hookups, tent camping, on-site motel, convenience store, restaurant, picnic tables, swimming beach, recreational trail, restrooms and gas. The Park is free for day use activities.

The Washington State University Research and Technology Park is located in close proximity to the Pullman Industrial Park. The Park is comprised of two technology transfer facilities. Building One, a 50,000 square foot building, is home to a number of growing companies. Building One also contains a 5,000 square foot incubator for small start-up companies. Special rates and services are provided to companies that locate in the incubator section of Building One. A 17,000 square foot building houses high-tech and biotech businesses and technology transfer start-ups.

Building Two houses several companies, some of which graduated from the incubator facility. It offers additional amenities to Research Park tenants such as a weight room and two conference rooms. The Park's cooperative partnership with WSU provides access to research laboratories and centers, technical services, computing facilities, and communications technology, such as:

- Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Facility
- Electron Microscopy Center
- Environmental Research Center
- International Marketing Program for Agriculture and Trade
- Institute of Biological Chemistry
- Bioanalytical Chemistry
- Laboratory Animal Resources Center
- State of Washington Water Research Center
- Radiation Safety Office

More information is available at: [www.portwhitman.com](http://www.portwhitman.com)

## HOUSING

Housing stock availability varies throughout the District. Some of the factors impacting availability include: income levels of the residents, changes in the job market, age of housing stock, and availability of developable residential lots. The availability of affordable workforce housing is lacking in some areas of the PEDD.

Each community has its own matrix of factors and is impacted by its proximity to other housing markets.

### MEDIAN HOME PRICES 2004-2006

All counties followed the state with median home prices increasing in the mid to upper 20% range. However, Columbia County experienced a decrease in median home prices during the one year period from 2005 to 2006, according to the Washington Center for Real Estate Research.

**TABLE 12 - Median Home Prices 2004-2006**

<b>County, WA</b>	<b>Median Home Price 2004</b>	<b>Median Home Price 2005</b>	<b>Median Home Price 2006</b>	<b>% Change 2004 - 2006</b>
<b>WA State</b>	\$225,000	\$260,900	\$293,800	30.6%
<b>Asotin</b>	111,200	127,500	142,900	28.5%
<b>Columbia</b>	81,400	114,300	100,000	22.8%
<b>Garfield</b>	111,200	127,500	142,900	28.5%
<b>Whitman</b>	147,700	170,700	188,200	27.4%

*Source:* [www.cb.wsu.edu/~wcrer](http://www.cb.wsu.edu/~wcrer)  
Rev. 10-07

# HOUSING FOR CITIES AND COUNTIES

Most of the housing growth within the region is occurring in the unincorporated areas of the counties, with the exception of Whitman County where the City of Pullman saw a 13.5% increase in housing stock from 2000 to 2007. Overall, housing growth ranges from 1.5% in Garfield County to 8.5% in Whitman County.

TABLE 13 - Housing Units by Structure type for Cities and Counties, WA 2000, 2007

County Municipality	2000				2007			
	Total	One Unit	Two or More Units	MH/TR/ Spec*	Total	One Unit	Two or More Units	MH/TR/ Spec*
<b>Asotin</b>	9,111	6,400	1,448	1,263	9,766	6,756	1,529	1,481
Unincorporated	5,257	3,807	488	962	5,854	4,144	556	1,154
Incorporated	3,854	2,593	960	301	3,912	2,612	973	327
Asotin	440	340	51	49	478	364	60	54
Clarkston	3,414	2,253	909	252	3,434	2,248	913	273
<b>Columbia</b>	2,018	1,581	156	281	2,151	1,631	182	338
Unincorporated	751	565	6	180	832	603	6	223
Incorporated	1,267	1,016	150	101	1,319	1,028	176	115
Dayton	1,181	963	149	69	1,232	976	175	81
Starbuck	86	53	1	32	87	52	1	34
<b>Garfield</b>	1,288	970	65	253	1,311	983	65	263
Unincorporated	548	415	4	129	568	425	4	139
Incorporated	740	555	61	124	743	558	61	124
Pomeroy	740	555	61	124	743	558	61	124
<b>Whitman</b>	16,676	8,814	6,306	1,556	18,566	9,345	7,591	1,630
Unincorporated	2,861	2,467	44	350	2,923	2,498	40	385
Incorporated	13,815	6,347	6,262	1,206	15,643	6,847	7,551	1,245
Albion	315	160	24	131	317	162	24	131
Colfax	1357	851	429	77	1,402	874	439	89
Colton	152	135	4	13	169	143	4	22
Endicott	169	142	0	27	170	141	0	29
Farmington	64	55	0	9	63	54	0	9
Garfield	288	191	24	73	298	190	40	68
Lacrosse	187	151	7	29	188	149	7	32
Lamont	38	25	2	11	39	25	2	12
Malden	108	86	1	21	111	88	1	22
Oakesdale	194	165	2	27	195	166	2	27
Palouse	471	369	33	69	482	368	33	81
Pullman	9,398	3,220	5,648	530	11,104	3,687	6,895	522
Rosalia	272	204	25	43	279	203	25	51
St. John	279	211	18	50	304	216	34	51
Tekoa	363	273	40	50	362	270	40	52
Uniontown	160	109	5	46	160	111	5	44

\* Mobile Homes Trailers/Specials

Source: [www.ofm.wa.gov](http://www.ofm.wa.gov)

Rev. 10-07

# NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

## GEOGRAPHY

The Palouse Economic Development District (PEDD) is located in the far southeastern corner of Washington State. It is comprised of the four counties of Asotin, Columbia, Garfield, and Whitman. This is an area of over 4,320 square miles with a variety of topography and geological features. The territory is bisected by the Snake River that consists of rugged bluffs and deep valleys. The northern portion of the region contains rich agricultural land that is well suited for the production of dry land wheat, peas, lentils, and barley. The southern section of the PEDD consists of mountainous, forested terrain and is home to the Umatilla National Forest.

## CLIMATE

The vastness of the region and the diversity of the topography make the calculation of an average temperature difficult. It can generally be stated that the region enjoys four distinct seasons. The average precipitation is less than 20 inches a year.

## SEPA

Washington State legislates, through the State Environmental Policy Act and the Shoreline Management Act, that development will not adversely affect environmentally sensitive areas. Various local governments have identified environmentally sensitive areas and have adopted regulations to address potential problems. In addition, Columbia and Garfield counties are voluntarily complying with the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA), adopted in 1990.

## AGRICULTURE

The agricultural soils in the PEDD are considered some of the most fertile in the United States. Farmers in the PEDD have established sound farming practices over the years and have become world leaders in agriculture, especially in wheat production.

Over the past few decades, smaller farms have been purchased by larger operations, and old farming methods have been replaced by modern, less labor-intensive systems. This has resulted in fewer workers being employed in the agricultural industry in the PEDD. Only three percent of the workforce in the PEDD is currently employed in the agricultural industry.

However, agriculture has been the mainstay of the region's economy in the past and is still a large contributor to the economy. Profits from area crops are generally returned to the local economy and boost activity in all other industries, especially the retail trade, wholesale trade, and services industries.

The region's primary crops are wheat and barley. Lentils and green peas are also very prevalent in Whitman County. The remaining crops of oats, hay, grass seed and various fruits and vegetables are also grown, but in lesser amounts. Cattle, hogs, and sheep are also raised in the region.

Most of the land in the PEDD is designated as agricultural and can be broken into three categories: Prime Farmland, Statewide Important Farmland, and Other Lands, as defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Prime Farmland is land best suited to producing food, feed and forage, fiber, and oilseed crops. Managed properly, prime farmland has the soil quality, length of growing season, and moisture supply needed to economically produce a sustained high yield of crops. Prime farmland produces the highest yields; with minimal energy and economic resources, farming this type of land results in the least environmental disturbance.

Statewide Important Farmland is farmland defined as land in public or private use for the purpose of producing irrigated or non-irrigated crops such as wheat, barley, potatoes, alfalfa, etc. and is not

designated as prime farmland. These lands have slight to moderate limitations that reduce the choice of plants or that require moderate conservation practices.

Other Land is a category of lands not used for agricultural purposes as it relates to growing crops, but instead, is used as rangelands and spring pasture for livestock operations. This includes lands where native vegetation is predominantly shrubs and grasses. The production potential and plant composition depend on the characteristics of the soils and climate.

The fertile soil and ample wind, sun, and water resources in the PEDD create great opportunity for renewable energy development, such as bio-fuels and wind energy production. These uses have shown themselves to be compatible with current uses in the agricultural zones in the region.

**TABLE 14 - Acreage & Yields – Major Crops, WA 2004-2006**

Crop	Year	Cnty./State	Acres Planted	Acres Harvested	Yield/Bushel	Prod./Bushel
<b>BARLEY</b>	2004	Wa. State	250,000	245,000	70	17,150,000
		Asotin	4,000	3,800	53.9	205,000
		Columbia	14,000	13,700	70.8	970,000
		Garfield	19,500	19,100	51.3	980,000
		Whitman	101,500	100,500	83.8	8,425,000
	2005	Wa. State	215,000	205,000	61	12,505,000
		Asotin	2,000	1,800	68.9	124,000
		Columbia	11,000	10,500	53.3	560,000
		Garfield	19,500	19,000	30	570,000
		Whitman	95,000	93,100	68.3	6,361,000
	2006	Wa. State	200,000	190,000	63	11,970,000
		Asotin	4,000	3,700	40.5	150,000
		Columbia	7,000	6,500	80	520,000
		Garfield	16,000	14,700	45.9	675,000
		Whitman	91,500	89,800	67.7	6,080,000
<b>SPRING WHEAT</b>	2004	Wa. State	530,000	525,000	50	26,250,000
		Asotin	2,200	2,200	29.1	64,000
		Columbia	19,700	19,600	44.7	876,000
		Garfield	21,400	21,300	37.9	808,000
		Whitman	132,300	131,600	55.3	7,280,000
	2005	Wa. State	430,000	425,000	44	18,700,000
		Asotin	1,000	1,000	34	34,000
		Columbia	16,900	16,800	23.3	392,000
		Garfield	12,200	12,200	25.2	308,000
		Whitman	122,200	120,000	39.2	4,707,000
	2006	Wa. State	430,000	425,000	50	21,250,000
		Asotin	1,500	1,500	32	48,000
		Columbia	24,000	23,300	53.2	1,240,000
		Garfield	17,000	16,900	36.8	621,500
		Whitman	112,000	109,300	48.3	5,284,000
<b>WINTER WHEAT</b>	2004	Wa. State	1,800,000	1,750,000	67	117,250,000
		Asotin	23,000	22,000	47.7	1,049,000
		Columbia	69,000	68,000	81.3	5,530,000
		Garfield	54,000	53,000	72.4	3,838,000
		Whitman	330,000	325,200	86.7	28,196,000
	2005	Wa. State	1,850,000	1,800,000	67	120,600,000
		Asotin	22,500	21,800	55	1,199,000
		Columbia	68,300	66,500	67	4,455,500
		Garfield	57,600	56,000	64	3,584,000
		Whitman	333,400	323,600	85.4	27,640,500
	2006	Wa. State	1,850,000	1,800,000	66	118,800,000
		Asotin	20,000	19,500	48.7	950,000
		Columbia	71,000	69,600	79	5,500,000
		Garfield	57,000	55,100	69	3,800,000
		Whitman	351,000	342,000	80.4	27,481,000

Source: [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)  
Rev. 10-07

## TIMBER/FOREST LAND

The southern portion of the District is forest and timberland that contrasts the dry land farming and rolling hills that typify much of the District. The wooded areas include the Umatilla National Forest, the Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness, and the Blue Mountains. Asotin, Columbia, and Garfield counties all contain portions of the Umatilla National Forest. This area contains Camp William T. Wooten State Park, the Ski Bluewood ski area, and two peaks over 6,300 feet: Oregon Butte and Diamond Peak.

### Umatilla National Forest

The Umatilla National Forest, located in the Blue Mountains of southeast Washington and northeast Oregon, covers 1.4 million acres of diverse landscapes and plant communities. The forest has some mountainous terrain, but most of the forest consists of v-shaped valleys separated by narrow ridges or plateaus.

The landscape also includes heavily timbered slopes, grassland ridges and benches, and bold basalt outcroppings. Elevation ranges from 1,600 to 8,000 feet above sea level. Changes in weather are common, but summers are generally warm and dry with cool evenings. Cold, snowy winters, and mild temperatures during spring and fall can be expected.

**TABLE 15 - National Forest acreage**

Natl. Forest/State	County	Acreage
Umatilla National Forest	Asotin County	53,797
	Columbia County	159,500
	Garfield County	95,467
<b>TOTAL PEDD ACRES</b>		<b>308,764</b>

*Source: [www.fs.fed.us/r6/uma](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/uma)  
Rev. 10-07*

## SURFACE WATER/RIVER SYSTEM

Centuries ago, floods carved out what today is known as the Columbia, Snake and Clearwater River System, with its countless coulees, steptoes, plunge pools, river valleys, and huge depressions. A complex system of reservoirs, canals, rivers, streams, and wetlands resulting from these unique geologic features provide recreation, irrigation, wildlife habitat, and transportation.

The primary surface water in the region is the Snake River. Most of the creeks, streams and rivers within the District flow into the Snake River that in turn connects with the Columbia River and eventually to the Pacific Ocean.

A series of Snake River dams supply the most prevalent source of energy in the PEDD, hydroelectric power. The reservoirs created by the dams enable an economical barge transportation system to serve as a low-cost alternative for shipping the region's agricultural commodities, lumber, and manufactured products to the West Coast and beyond.

The reservoirs also provide recreational opportunities for boating, rafting, fishing, and other water-related sports. The recreational and scenic features are a primary draw upriver from the Lewiston-Clarkston area on the Snake and Clearwater River systems.

Smaller systems include the Palouse River, Alkali Flat Creek, Union Flat Creek, Rock Creek and Rock Lake in Whitman County; Asotin Creek and Grande Ronde River in Asotin County; Alpowa Creek, Deadman Creek, Meadow Creek and Pataha Creek in Garfield County; and the Tucannon River and Touchet River in Columbia County. The Touchet River flows into the Walla Walla River, which then flows into the Columbia River.

## FLOODPLAINS/WETLANDS

Because of the climate and topography of the PEDD, wetlands are abundant during the rainy season of spring and early summer. However, most of the wetlands either dry up completely or become intermittent streams during late summer and fall.

The primary federal law regulating development of wetlands is the 1972 Clean Water Act. Section 404 of this Act establishes a permit program for regulating the discharge of fill material into waters of the United States including wetlands. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corps of Engineers administer the section 404 programs. A number of state laws regulate development in wetlands, including the following:

- Shoreline Management Act: This Act was designed to prohibit piecemeal development of shorelines and their associated wetlands. It requires permits for development within 200 feet of shorelines and requires local governments to develop master shoreline programs to regulate development within their jurisdiction.
- State Environmental Policy Act: This Act was designed to analyze the environmental impacts of development. It requires the preparation of an environmental impact statement if a project is determined to have a “probable, significant, adverse environmental impact.”
- Hydraulics Code: This law requires a Hydraulic Project Approval by the Department of Wildlife or Department of Fisheries before any work is conducted.

## Watershed Planning

In 1998, Legislature passed and the Governor signed into law the Watershed Management Act that provides a framework for local citizens, interest groups, and government organizations to collectively identify and solve water-related issues in each of the 62 Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIA) throughout the State of Washington. Governments in both Asotin County (WRIA 35) and Whitman County (WRIA 34 and 35) have initiated the watershed planning process. The Watershed Plan addresses water quality, water quantity, fish habitat, and in-stream flows. The assessment of each watershed will include an inventory of tributaries, water sources, wells, and many other items and issues related to these four elements. The final result will be a planning document adopted by each county government. The plan will be implemented in coordination with Salmon recovery, sub-basin planning, and other water resource planning efforts.

## HAZARDOUS & CONTAMINATED WASTE SITES

As of October 2007, there are no “Superfund Sites” designated in the PEDD. The Department of Ecology has listed the following number of confirmed and suspected contaminated waste sites in the PEDD.

**TABLE 16 - Number of Confirmed & Suspected Contaminated Waste Sites 2007**

County	Sites
Asotin	1
Columbia	0
Garfield	1
Whitman	18

Source: [www.ecy.wa.gov](http://www.ecy.wa.gov)  
Rev. 10-07

# INFRASTRUCTURE

## WATER SUPPLY

The District has a good supply of clean drinking water. Numerous underground aquifers throughout the four counties provide a high quality, dependable source of drinking water, although none are sole source aquifers. The Lewiston Basin Aquifer, located in the Lewiston-Clarkston Valley, received Sole or Principal Source Aquifer designation by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 1989. This designation protects the aquifer from potential contamination by mandating that the EPA review any federal projects that could compromise the aquifer.

**TABLE 17 - Area Water Capacities**

City	Qi Instantaneous Quantity	Qa Annual Quantity
<b>ASOTIN COUNTY</b>		
Asotin	1399 gpm	417 af/year
Clarkston <sup>a</sup>	19,950 gpm	6645 af/year
<b>COLUMBIA COUNTY</b>		
Dayton	2700 gpm	3630 af/year
Starbuck	270 gpm	432 af/year
<b>GARFIELD CNTY.</b>		
Pomeroy	1750 gpm	746 af/year
<b>WHITMAN COUNTY</b>		
Albion <sup>b</sup>	300 gpm	300 af/year
Colfax	2370 gpm	1384 af/year
Colton <sup>f</sup>	342 gpm	123 af/year
Endicott <sup>c</sup>	380 gpm	135 af/year
Farmington	400 gpm	150 af/year
Garfield	1150 gpm	600 af/year
LaCrosse <sup>d</sup>	500 gpm	320 af/year
Lamont	117 gpm	72 af/year
Malden	150 gpm	58 af/year
Oakesdale	1350 gpm	260 af/year
Palouse <sup>e</sup>	900 gpm	1450 af/year
Pullman <sup>f</sup>	7700 gpm	4585 af/year
Rosalia	1300 gpm	398 af/year
St. John	1100 gpm	400 af/year
Tekoa	1550 gpm	800 af/year
Uniontown	435 gpm	220 af/year

a (The total surface water rights are unknown. Only the ground water rights are listed.)

b (Two water rights are in development stage in addition to those listed. These are for waste water treatment and authorize up to a total of 5.2 af/year. The extent of their Water Right Claim is unknown and is not included in the listed numbers.)

c (Water is withdrawn under Water Right Claims, therefore, the extent and validity is unknown. The number listed is a total of all three claims added together.)

d (Water is withdrawn under Water Right Claims, therefore, the extent and validity is unknown. Three Water Right Claims each list 500 gpm & 320 af/year.)

e (The extent of the Water Right Claim is unknown and is not included in the listed numbers. The certificate appears to have a ministerial error. If 900 gpm were pumped continuously throughout the year approximately 1,450 af/year could be pumped, not the documented number of 1,600 af/year.)

f (Currently under litigation)

gpm = gallons per minute

af/year = acre feet per year

Source: Washington State Department of Ecology  
Rev. 1-08

## SEWAGE COLLECTION AND TREATMENT

Sewage collection methods vary widely throughout the District. Factors such as population, service area, topography and land use have determined local treatment methods. Sanitary sewer is provided by activated sludge, secondary sludge, trickling filter, and aerated lagoons. Smaller towns and farms use septic tank systems.

**TABLE 18 - Sewage Treatment Methods and Sanitary Sewer Capacity, WA 2007**

City	Plant Type	Total Capacity (MGD) Range
Albion	Facultative lagoons with chlorination	0.12 MGD
Asotin	Oxidation ditch w/ chlorination	.344 MGD
Clarkston	Activated sludge w/nitrification	2.2 MGD
Colfax	Aerated lagoon; chlorine disinfection; infiltration cells	0.6 MGD
Colton	Municipal facultative lagoons	0.06 MGD
Dayton	Trickling filter w/ nitrification, UV disinfection	0.75 MGD
Endicott	Aero-mode (Publicly owned treatment works)	.15 MGD
Farmington	Publicly owned treatment works, earthen lines lagoon followed by vegetated, evaporation in filtrated lagoon	0.018 MGD
Garfield	Activated biofilter with polishing wetland	0.07 MGD
Lacrosse	Publicly owned treatment works, facultative lagoon/seepage lagoon	.098 MGD
Oakesdale	Waste stabilization lagoons with chlorination, surface water discharge	0.16 MGD
Palouse	Extended aeration; activated sludge	.16 MGD
Pomeroy	Biofilter with second stage aeration and UV disinfection	0.27 to 0.34 MGD
Pullman	Activated sludge w/ chlorination/dechlorination	13.0 MGD
Rosalia	2 cell discharging facultative lagoons	.125 MGD
St. John	Trickling filter; followed by clarification; chlorination and discharge	0.12 MGD
Starbuck	Attached growth activated sludge w/nitrogen removal and low pressure drip irrigation	0.02 MGD
Step toe	2 cell, non over-flow earthen lined lagoons	0.03 MGD
Tekoa	Activated sludge, w/ nitrification, chlorination aerobic digestion	0.2 MGD
Uniontown	Facultative, unlined, non-overflowing lagoons	0.05 MGD

Source: [www.ecy.wa.gov](http://www.ecy.wa.gov)  
Rev. 1-08

## **SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL**

The primary site for solid waste disposal in the PEDD is the Asotin County Regional Landfill. The landfill is comprised of approximately 76 permitted acres of unincorporated land. The facility is open six days a week and receives approximately 125 tons per day or 38,000 tons per year. At this rate the site will reach capacity in 2032. The Solid Waste Management Plan was developed and adopted by the Asotin Board of Commissioners in April 1973 by inter-local agreements with three counties and four cities. Counties: Asotin and Garfield counties, WA and Nez Perce County, ID. Cities: Asotin and Clarkston in Asotin County; Pomeroy in Garfield County; and Lewiston in Nez Perce County.

Other facilities used by communities in the region include Sudbury Landfill in Walla Walla, WA and the landfill in Arlington, OR.

Whitman County operates a Solid Waste Transfer Station and a small limited purpose landfill for construction demo. They ship approximately 25,000 tons of waste to Arlington, Oregon annually. Local haulers operate both curbside and recycling drop off centers. The Whitman County Solid Waste Plan was updated in 2006 and adopted by the County Commissioners. Interlocal solid waste plan agreements have been signed with 16 cities and towns that make up this county.

### **Recycling**

Whitman County offers a very active recycling program. Residential curbside recycling is available in some communities with drop-off sites located in many of the other communities. The Whitman County Landfill offers recycling drop off as well as free household hazardous waste drop-off and yard waste recycling. Both the county and Washington State University (WSU) have Recycling Coordinators, and WSU operates construction waste recycling programs. The Town of Garfield provides its own garbage and recycling service and also offers yard waste recycling.

Dayton, in Columbia County, and Asotin and Clarkston, in Asotin County, have multiple locations to drop off recyclables, as well as transfer stations accepting household hazardous waste, yard debris, and other recyclable items.

### **Compost Facilities**

In Whitman County, Garfield, Rosalia and Palouse operate small composting facilities. The product generated is distributed to community residents free of charge. Washington State University operates a composting facility that diverts significant amounts of solid waste from the Whitman County Landfill.

Dayton, in Columbia County, has a composting facility, and nearby Lewiston, ID houses a regional, privately run composting facility. Its operation utilizes feedstock from communities around the region, with a market sales area in Eastern Washington, Northern Idaho, and Eastern Oregon.

## **TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Connections to telecommunication services, particularly Internet connectivity, are varied throughout the District. Some areas are served with DSL while others are limited to dial-up access.

In Asotin County, Clarkston has high speed DSL and wireless Internet, and the City of Asotin has DSL and is currently working on wireless capabilities. There are some remote areas of Asotin County that only have access to dial-up Internet.

Telecommunication services in Garfield County consist of dial-up and DSL Internet connections through a local Internet service provider and the telephone service provider. The local service provider also has several high-speed wireless Internet connections for residents and businesses with line-of-sight access.

Dayton has DSL, wireless, and satellite high-speed Internet options with redundancy within the city limits. The community continues to participate in the education and use of internet based services.

Pullman has high speed DSL and wireless. Colfax and several other smaller communities in Whitman County also have cable Internet connections.

## ENERGY

The PEDD region is served by various public and private electric utilities. Most urban areas are served by either Avista Utilities or Pacific Power. Inland Power & Light provides service to portions of Whitman County, and Columbia Rural Electric Association serves rural areas of Columbia County. Customers enjoy some of the lowest electric rates in the nation due to the region's abundant supply of low cost hydropower. In addition, recent additions of wind and natural gas generation ensure an abundant energy supply for the region.

The PEDD is served with natural gas in Whitman and Asotin counties by Avista Utilities. Prices are competitive and there is a plentiful supply. Pipeline capacity is adequate in most incorporated cities and industrial areas.

## TRANSPORTATION

Included within this section are descriptions of the highway, public transit, air, rail, and water transportation systems. These transportation systems are critical for the economic activities occurring within the District. Additional information regarding the region's transportation system can be found in the Palouse Regional Transportation Plan 2004 (RTP) and its 2005 Addendum. This document establishes the goals and policies for the transportation network, and discusses the region's key issues.

### HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

The major north-south highways are U.S. 195 in Washington and U.S. 95 in Idaho. These highways provide access for the Clarkston-Lewiston, Pullman-Moscow and Colfax areas to Interstate 90 in Spokane. Traveling east, U.S. 12 connects to U.S. 195 and U.S. 95, and traveling west of the District, connects to major highways I-84 and U.S. 395.

Additionally, State Route 26 runs west from Colfax and connects with U.S. 395, and on to Interstate 90 at Vantage. This is a major route west to Seattle. State Highway 129 is the major north-south highway between Clarkston and Enterprise, Oregon.



**TABLE 19 - Summary of Roadway Mileage by Jurisdiction, WA**

Road Type	Asotin	Columbia	Garfield	Whitman	TOTAL
County Roads	401.82	503.34	447.10	1,912.34	3,264.60
Collector State Highways	---	15.02	---	145.33	160.35
Minor State Highways	43.19	---	---	2.31	45.50
Principal State Highways	12.19	29.02	43.18	130.71	215.10
<b>TOTAL</b>	457.20	547.38	490.28	2,190.69	3,685.55

*Source: County Road Administration Board 2007 Annual Report  
Rev. 2-08*

### Trucking and Delivery

The region is served by numerous trucking and express package delivery services. Trucking fleets include private contract carriers, corporate truck fleets, and commercial for-hire fleets. Various express package fleets serve the region using the air facilities located in and around the region.

### PUBLIC TRANSIT

Transit services are available in each of the counties.

- Council on Aging & Human Services serves nine counties in Washington and Idaho including Asotin, Garfield, and Whitman. They are a broker for Medicaid transportation services and a direct provider of services.
- Asotin County Transit services are provided through a contract with Valley Transit that operates Fixed Route service as well as Demand Response service.
- Columbia County's service is provided by Columbia County Public Transportation. They offer Demand Response (Dial-a-Ride) and van pool services.
- Garfield County Transportation operates a deviated fixed route between Pomeroy and the Lewiston/Clarkston Valley and a Dial-a-Ride service within Pomeroy.
- Whitman County has a variety of transit services.
  - Pullman Transit operates fixed route services and a para-transit service within Pullman city limits.
  - Wheatland Express, a charter bus operator, operates a subsidized fixed-route public shuttle between the campus of Washington State University and the University of Idaho, and serves Spokane International Airport.
  - Northwestern Trailways operates intercity routes using over-the-road coaches. The route links Boise, Idaho to Spokane, Washington.

Greater detail is available in the Palouse RTPO Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan Phase 1, December 2006, which is linked to [www.palouse.org](http://www.palouse.org).

## **AIR TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM**

Commercial airports serving the PEDD are located in Pullman, Spokane, Tri-Cities, and Walla Walla, Washington and Lewiston, Idaho. Numerous smaller landing strips are available in the area, as well as some general aviation fields. These smaller airports play an important role in agriculture-related operations such as aerial applications and access to remote recreational areas.

### **Lewiston-Nez Perce County Regional Airport**

Located in Lewiston, Idaho, the Lewiston-Nez Perce County Regional Airport serves the eastern portion of the District. The airport has regional air service provided by Horizon and Sky West. Additional services include: charter services provided by Stout Flying Service and Hillcrest Aircraft Company; express package services provided by DHL, Federal Express, and UPS; rental cars, a restaurant, and beauty shop. [www.lcairport.net](http://www.lcairport.net)

### **Pullman-Moscow Regional Airport**

The Pullman-Moscow Regional Airport is served by Horizon Air, rental car agencies, taxi services, and hotel shuttles. It provides general aviation services through a fixed base operator and houses corporate aircraft. [www.pullman-wa.gov/airport](http://www.pullman-wa.gov/airport)

### **Spokane International Airport**

Spokane International Airport, the second largest air carrier airport in the state, is approximately 60 miles north of Colfax and 110 miles north of Clarkston in Spokane, WA. It is served by multiple national carriers, express package services, and by a fixed base operator. The terminal has food service, taxi, transit, car rental, and hotel shuttle services. [www.spokaneairports.net](http://www.spokaneairports.net)

### **Tri-Cities Regional Airport**

Tri-Cities Regional Airport, the third largest air carrier airport in the state, is located approximately 60 miles west of Dayton in Pasco, WA. It is served by Delta Connection, Horizon Air, United Express and Allegiant Air. General aviation services are provided through a fixed base operator, Bergstrom Aircraft, Inc., and package freight by Federal Express. [www.portofpasco.org/airport/general\\_info.html](http://www.portofpasco.org/airport/general_info.html)

### **Walla Walla Regional Airport**

Located just outside the boundaries of the District, 27 miles west of Dayton, Walla Walla Regional Airport serves the western portion of the region. Its services include Horizon Air, rental cars, and a restaurant. [www.wallawallaairport.com](http://www.wallawallaairport.com)

### **General Aviation Fields**

General aviation airports are located outside of Colfax and Rosalia. Colfax's airstrip is 2,170 feet and Rosalia's is 2,650 feet long. In addition, Tekoa has a General Aviation runway that is 2,300 feet long. Numerous private agricultural runways exist throughout the region used primarily for aerial applicators.

## **RAIL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM**

Whitman County is served by the PV-Hooper line and the Palouse Line that are parts of the greater Eastern Washington short-line rail system. The line serves Whitman County, parts of Idaho, and interchanges with both the Burlington Northern Santa Fe and Union Pacific Railroad at Ayer, Washington. The State acquired the short lines in 2006 from Watco. This purchase was made in order to preserve the rail and inject State funds into the infrastructure for rehabilitation purposes. The State has requested proposals for rail operators and is in the process of working with local government entities in order to form a rail governance structure.

Columbia County is served by the Blue Mountain Railroad. This line is also operated by Watco Companies. The State of Washington Department of Transportation has recently become involved in rail ownership and maintenance in Eastern Washington. Parts of the Great Northwest Railroad line were purchased by the state and leased back to Watco. In the case of the Blue Mountain Railroad, low interest loans were provided to Watco for the repair and upgrading of the line.

Cargoes handled on these lines include wheat, barley, other grains, peas, lentils, lumber, and fertilizers.

Asotin County and Garfield County do not have rail service.

## **WATER TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM**

The Snake River is an important component of the transportation system serving the region. The river handles a significant amount of grain and other goods produced in the region. The construction of four major dams on the Snake River in the 1950's to 1970's, complete with lock facilities, enables ocean going cargo to travel inland as far as Lewiston, Idaho. Both the Little Goose Dam and Lower Granite Dam are located within the PEDD.

There are four port Districts serving the PEDD that have water-side facilities: the Ports of Clarkston, Columbia, Garfield, and Whitman. The Port of Whitman operates three industrial sites along the river: Ports of Wilma, Central Ferry, and Almota. Outbound shipments consist primarily of agricultural commodities and lumber. The ports of Clarkston, Columbia, and Whitman also have contracted marinas at some of their locations. A fifth port, The Port of Lewiston located in ID, is an important factor to our regional economy with its water-side facility for grain and containerized shipments.

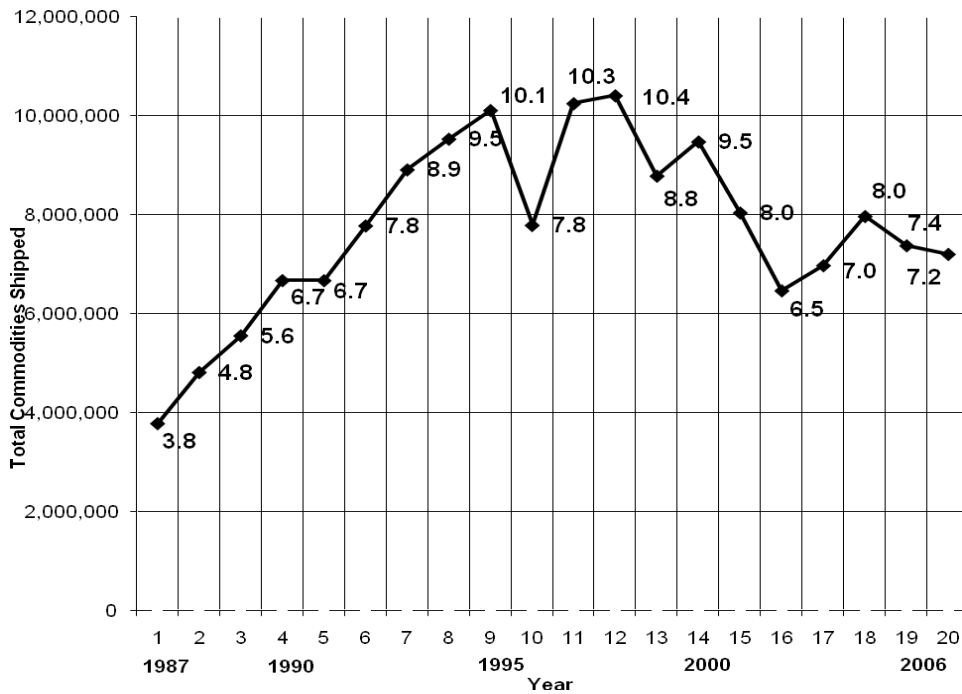
Port facilities located along the Snake River are operated by Port Districts. Specific ports include the following:

- Port of Garfield at Central Ferry
- Port of Whitman at:
  - Port of Central Ferry
  - Port of Almota
  - Port of Wilma
- Port of Clarkston
- Port of Lewiston

Table 20 shows the volume of commodities shipped through area locks. The grain shipped by barges down river originates and is trucked in from various areas such as Montana, Oregon, Colorado, the Dakotas, Idaho, and the Great Plains states, and from the farms within the PEDD. Water transportation helps to reduce the effect of highway trucking on our roadways. Table 20 also displays the number of truckload equivalents of commodities shipped by barge.

**TABLE 20 - Total Tonnage of Commodities Shipped through Area Locks 1987-2006**

Year	Total Commodities Shipped*	Annual Percentage Change (%)	Semi-Truckload Equivalent (# of truckloads not on road as a result)
1987	3,773,583	1.7	148,393
1988	4,809,957	27.5	192,398
1989	5,552,722	15.4	222,109
1990	6,670,697	20.1	266,828
1991	6,668,884	-.03	266,755
1992	7,777,483	16.6	311,099
1993	8,912,159	14.6	356,486
1994	9,534,477	6.9	381,379
1995	10,114,326	6.1	404,573
1996	7,787,478	-23.0	311,499
1997	10,253,605	31.7	410,114
1998	10,411,969	1.5	416,478
1999	8,784,717	-15.6	351,389
2000	9,477,600	7.9	379,104
2001	8,039,500	-15.2	321,580
2002	6,463,300	-19.6	258,532
2003	6,971,900	7.9	278,876
2004	7,967,400	14.3	318,696
2005	7,375,800	-7.4	295,032
2006	7,201,600	-2.4	288,064



\*Includes combined tonnage through Lower Monumental, Little Goose and Lower Granite Dams.

Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Clarkston, WA

Rev. 12-07

# PUBLIC FACILITIES

## PUBLIC SAFETY

### Emergency Services

The four PEDD counties have fire districts and departments providing coverage with trained volunteers and, in some cases, by paid staff.

Asotin County is served by Asotin County Fire District #1, the City of Asotin Fire Department, and the Clarkston Fire Department. All three use the services of trained volunteers, and Asotin County and Clarkston both have some paid positions. First Response is provided by the Clarkston Fire Department, and medical transport is provided by the Lewiston Fire Department.

Columbia County has three fire districts operating within the county. Fire District #3 is the largest and provides services to the City of Dayton. They also provide medical transport services for District #1 that covers the north part of the county and the town of Starbuck. District #2 is a joint district between Columbia County and Walla Walla, primarily serving the City of Waitsburg in Walla Walla County.

Garfield County is covered by a fire district staffed by trained volunteers. The district provides services to the City of Pomeroy, in addition to the unincorporated areas of the county.

Whitman County has 16 towns and cities, 14 city fire departments, and 13 county fire districts. Two of the cities contract with fire districts for services. The City of Pullman is staffed with fulltime crews and supplemented with volunteers. The other districts and departments predominately use the services of trained volunteers.

### Crime Rates

The crime rate has decreased in some areas of the PEDD, and increased in others. All counties are below the state's rate in the Crime Index; however, Garfield County is slightly above the state's rate of Violent Crimes.

**TABLE 21 - Area Crime Rates 2005-2006**

County, WA	2005 Crime Index Offenses Rate Per 1000 People	2006 Crime Index Offenses Rate Per 1000 People	2005 Violent Crimes Rate Per 1000 People	2006 Violent Crimes Rate Per 1000 People
WA State	52.9	48.2	3.5	3.4
Asotin	31.6	28.3	2.1	1.4
Columbia	34.6	39.8	0.7	0.2
Garfield	40.0	32.9	2.5	3.8
Whitman	20.2	21.4	1.4	1.5

Source: [www.waspc.org](http://www.waspc.org)  
Rev. 10-07

# SCHOOLS & EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

## Higher Education

Numerous institutions provide four-year degree programs in or near the PEDD:

**TABLE 22 – Four Year Institutions Fall 2007**

College	Public or Private	City, State	Fall Enrollment
<b>Washington State University</b> <i>www.wsu.edu</i>	Public	Pullman, WA	17,583
<b>University of Idaho</b> <i>www.uidaho.edu</i>	Public	Moscow, ID	11,636
<b>Lewis-Clark State College</b> <i>www.lcsc.edu</i>	Public	Lewiston, ID	3,612
<b>Eastern Washington University</b> <i>www.ewu.edu</i>	Public	Cheney, WA	10,686
<b>Gonzaga University</b> <i>www.gonzaga.edu</i>	Private	Spokane, WA	6,736
<b>Walla Walla University</b> <i>www.wallawalla.edu</i>	Private	College Place, WA	1,876
<b>Whitman College</b> <i>www.whitman.edu</i>	Private	Walla Walla, WA	1,454
<b>Whitworth University</b> <i>www.whitworth.edu</i>	Private	Spokane, WA	2,607

Rev. 2-08

- Washington State University is located in Pullman
- University of Idaho is eight miles east of Pullman
- Lewis-Clark State College is one mile east of Clarkston
- Eastern Washington University is 25 miles north of Rosalia
- Gonzaga University is 30 miles north of Rosalia
- Walla Walla College is 30 miles west of Dayton
- Whitman College is 30 miles west of Dayton
- Whitworth College is 40 miles north of Rosalia

Whitman College, Walla Walla University, Eastern Washington University, Gonzaga University, Whitworth University, Washington State University, and the University of Idaho also offer masters degrees and Washington State University, Gonzaga University, and the University of Idaho offer doctorates. WSU has a School of Veterinary Medicine, and Gonzaga University and University of Idaho each have a Law School. Lewis Clark State College and Whitman College also provide two-year transfer programs.

The WSU Center for Distance and Professional Education has developed a unique program for providing upper division courses leading to a baccalaureate degree in Social Science by satellite. This program serves numerous Washington State communities and is significant in that it is the first program in the State of Washington to address the need for equitable access to higher education for rural citizens. The Center also provides a range of programs and online degrees in six academic areas from any location through distance learning, and also offers a number of online certificate programs, face-to-face training programs, and professional conferencing services.

Most other four-year institutions offer distance learning programs, as well.

## Community Colleges

Community Colleges and Lewis Clark State College deliver vocational education, two-year degree, and certificate programs to the residents of this region.

- Walla Walla Community College – Clarkston Center - [www.wbcc.edu/clarkston](http://www.wbcc.edu/clarkston) - provides degree and/or certificate programs in Carpentry, Computer Technology, Early Childhood Education, Medical Terminology, Nursing, Office Technology and Associates of Art for transfer students, as well as Distance Learning options.
- Walla Walla Community College –Walla Walla campus – [www.wbcc.edu](http://www.wbcc.edu) – has a variety of offerings available.
- The Community Colleges of Spokane – [www.ccs.spokane.edu](http://www.ccs.spokane.edu) – through their Institute for Extended Learning provides classes to our region.

**TABLE 22a – Area Community College Enrollment Fall 2007**

College	Public or Private	City, State	Fall Enrollment
<b>Walla Walla Community College</b> <a href="http://www.wbcc.edu">www.wbcc.edu</a>	Public	Clarkston, WA	667
<b>Walla Walla Community College</b> <a href="http://www.wbcc.edu">www.wbcc.edu</a>	Public	Walla Walla, WA	5,951
<b>Community Colleges of Spokane</b> <a href="http://ccs.spokane.cc.wa.us">http://ccs.spokane.cc.wa.us</a>	Public	Spokane, WA	15,615

Rev. 2-08

## K-12 Education

The PEDD provides excellent opportunities for learning with a wide variety of education options. Eighteen school districts provide elementary and secondary education in the PEDD.

Asotin-Anatone School District – [www.aasd.wednet.edu](http://www.aasd.wednet.edu)

Clarkston School District – [www.csd12.org](http://www.csd12.org)

Colfax School District – [www.colfax.k12.wa.us](http://www.colfax.k12.wa.us)

Colton School District – [www.colton.k12.wa.us](http://www.colton.k12.wa.us)

Dayton School District – [www.dayton.wednet.edu](http://www.dayton.wednet.edu)

Garfield-Palouse School District – [www.garpal.wednet.edu](http://www.garpal.wednet.edu)

LaCrosse School District – [www.lax.wednet.edu](http://www.lax.wednet.edu)

Lamont School District – [www.greatschools.net/modperl/browse\\_district/129/wa](http://www.greatschools.net/modperl/browse_district/129/wa)

Oakesdale School District – [www.greatschools.net/modperl/brose\\_district/178/wa](http://www.greatschools.net/modperl/brose_district/178/wa)

Pomeroy School District – [www.psd.wednet.edu](http://www.psd.wednet.edu)

Pullman School District – [www.psd267.wednet.edu](http://www.psd267.wednet.edu)

Rosalia School District – [www.greatschools.net/modperl/browse\\_district/225/wa](http://www.greatschools.net/modperl/browse_district/225/wa)

St. John-Endicott School District – [www.sje.wednet.edu](http://www.sje.wednet.edu)

Starbuck School District — [www.greatschools.net/modperl/browse\\_district/315/wa](http://www.greatschools.net/modperl/browse_district/315/wa)

Steptoe School District — [www.greatschools.net/modperl/browse\\_district/225/wa](http://www.greatschools.net/modperl/browse_district/225/wa)

Tekoa School District — [www.tekoa.wednet.edu](http://www.tekoa.wednet.edu)

## **Employment Training**

Many different job training opportunities are available in the PEDD. These include Walla Walla Community College with branches in Walla Walla and Clarkston, Community Colleges of Spokane with additional offerings in Whitman County, and Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston, Idaho all providing various job training to area residents.

Rural Resources is the lead agency in the District for the delivery of job training programs and funding under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA).

## **LIBRARIES**

### **Asotin County**

Asotin County is served by the Asotin County Library that serves all incorporated and unincorporated areas of the county. This includes the City of Asotin and the City of Clarkston. [www.aclib.org](http://www.aclib.org)

### **Columbia County**

Columbia County has a county-wide library service for its residents in unincorporated areas. Dayton operates its own city-funded library. The town of Starbuck does not have library service. [www.daytonwa.com/](http://www.daytonwa.com/)

### **Garfield County**

Garfield County does not have formal countywide library services for its residents in the unincorporated areas. Pomeroy operates its own city-funded library. The county provides some funding to the Pomeroy Public Library to serve county residents. [www.pomeroy.lib.wa.us](http://www.pomeroy.lib.wa.us)

### **Whitman County**

Whitman County operates a 14-branch rural library system that serves all of the incorporated and unincorporated areas except the cities of Pullman and Lamont. Pullman operates its own city-funded library, Neill Public Library. The town of Lamont does not have library service. [www.whitco.lib.wa.us](http://www.whitco.lib.wa.us) , [www.neill-lib.org](http://www.neill-lib.org)

### **Washington State University Library**

WSU has six libraries on campus in Pullman. [www.wsulibs.wsu.edu](http://www.wsulibs.wsu.edu)

### **University of Idaho Library**

The U of I library is located in Moscow, ID and offers a variety of services. [www.lib.uidaho.edu](http://www.lib.uidaho.edu)

# TOURISM

## Recreational & Cultural Activities and Facilities

The PEDD is rich in natural resources for recreation and tourism. The Snake River runs through the region and offers water-based recreation and fishing on miles of calm, uncrowded water. The Clearwater & Snake River National Recreation Trail offers ten miles of paved continuous trails, boat launches, marinas, and swimming beaches. Several parks and marinas throughout the District offer services and amenities such as: swimming, picnic areas, overnight lodging, RV sites, and many have utility hook-ups.

The region is also known as the gateway to Hells Canyon, North America's deepest gorge, and attracts more than 30,000 visitors each year to enjoy world-class whitewater adventures. The Port of Clarkston is the docking point for several cruise boat companies that originate in Portland, OR, and travel the Columbia-Snake River system following the Lewis & Clark water route. The Touchet and Tucannon Rivers are found in the western part of the region and provide additional recreational opportunities. In the northern end of Whitman County a series of lakes entices anglers. Whitman County is the home to Steptoe Butte State Park and Kamiak Butte County Park. The county also operates several other smaller day use parks. Asotin County is the home to Fields Spring State Park, Chief Timothy Park, and several other park areas along the Snake River in Clarkston and Asotin. Garfield County is home to Central Ferry Park and is considered a gateway to the Blue Mountains. Columbia County is home to Palouse Falls State Park and Camp Wooten State Park, as well as Lyons Ferry Park.

The array of recreational activities available in the PEDD keeps visitors and residents entertained through every season of the year. Activities include hunting, fishing, skiing, snowmobiling, biking, golf, and other outdoor endeavors. The area is home to the Umatilla National Forest and the Weneha-Tucannon Wilderness area, as well as numerous sandy beaches and boat launches on the Snake River.

Throughout the year, the region is host to many local and nationally recognized events. These include rodeos; fairs and festivals highlighting the agricultural roots of the PEDD; car shows and road races; major college sports, including the NAIA World Series; and the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival. WSU also offers residents access to PAC 10 sporting events. The National Lentil Festival held each August in Pullman celebrates the regional title as the Pea and Lentil capitol of the world. Garfield County is the site of the developing Eastern Washington Agricultural Museum and the Wild West Road Rally. Columbia County has many activities such as the All-Wheels Weekend and fine arts events, and Asotin County now boasts an Aquatic Center.

Cultural opportunities flourish in the PEDD. The largest art museum in the Inland Northwest is located on the WSU campus in Pullman, offering changing exhibits ranging from fine arts and fine crafts to architecture and design. In addition, several towns boast art galleries representing a wide variety of local, regional, and national talent. Theatre, dance, and music performances occur regularly at facilities across the area, including the 12,000 seat Beasley Coliseum on the WSU campus. Top-name comedians; rock, country, and jazz stars; and touring ballet, symphony, and theatre acts perform at the coliseum throughout the year. The area is in close proximity to the rich culture of the Nez Perce Nation. In Uniontown, a 1934 Dairy Barn turned Artisans workshop offers interactive opportunities to visit with artists while they create their work. The Tekoa Empire Theatre, a 1940, 280 seat, Art Deco Theatre, has been renovated and re-opened as a performing arts center. Regular performances throughout the year include local and regional talent.

**TABLE 23 – Travel Statistics 2005**

No data available after 2005

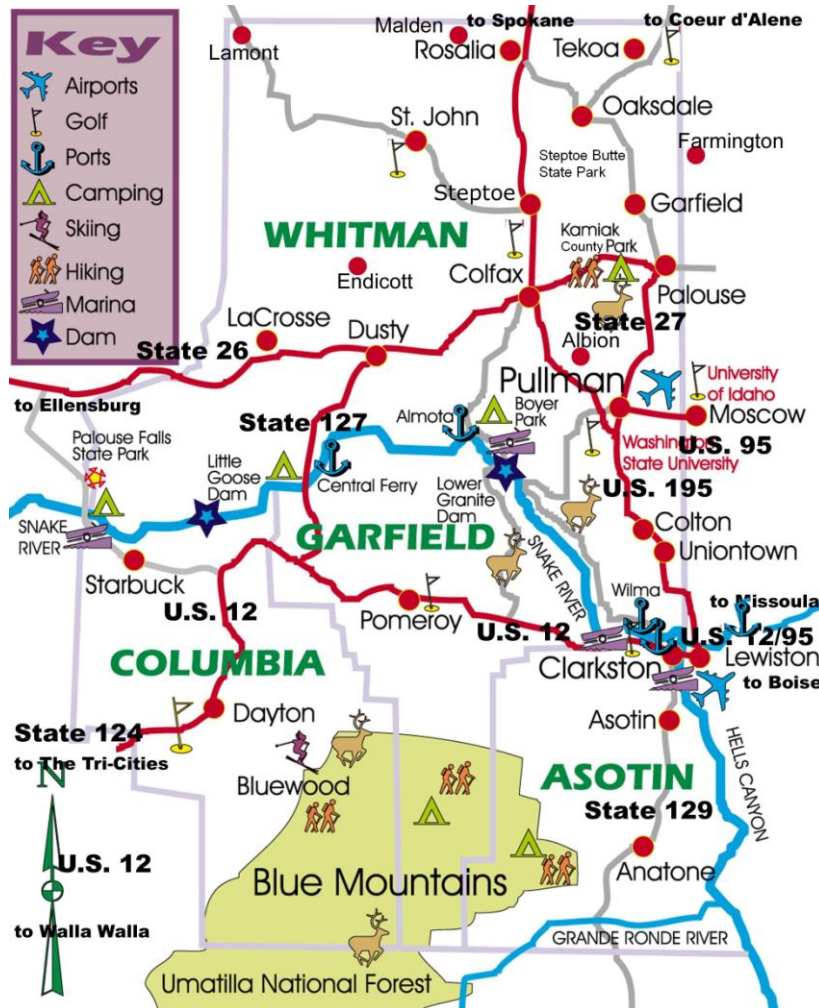
	Asotin County	Columbia County	Garfield County	Whitman County
Travel Expenditures (\$million)	24.1	6.8	1.6	47.5
Travel-Generated Payroll (\$million)	7.0	1.6	0.4	13.4
Travel-Generated Employment (jobs)	390.0	120.0	20.0	880.0
State Tax Receipts (\$million)	1.3	0.4	0.1	2.8
Local Tax Receipts (\$million)	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.6

Source: [www.deanrunyan.com](http://www.deanrunyan.com)  
Rev. 12-06

### Historic Areas

The region is rich in history providing historic trails and encampments, historic homes and buildings, museums, and restored historic sites of local, regional and national significance. The PEDD has more than 70 sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places including the Steptoe Battlefield in Whitman County, the 1878 Perkins House in Colfax, and the oldest courthouse and depot in the state, located in Dayton. Additionally, there are hundreds of individual buildings within the historic districts of Colfax, Dayton, Palouse, Pomeroy, and Pullman.

**MAP 2 - Map of Four County Area**



# COMMUNITY SERVICES

## MEDICAL FACILITIES

### Hospitals

Five hospitals provide a total of 231 beds in the PEDD. Special services at the hospitals in the PEDD include outpatient care, cardiac and respiratory therapy, orthopedic surgery, CAT scanning, outpatient surgery, ultrasound, echocardiography, radiology, endoscopy, chemotherapy, kidney dialysis, eye surgery, spinal cord treatment, and family hospice. Referrals and coordination with larger regional facilities outside the area are also available when other major medical cases arise. Those are often transferred to Walla Walla (30 miles west of Dayton) and Spokane (approximately 60 miles north of Colfax). Hospitals located in nearby Lewiston and Moscow, Idaho provide an additional 185 beds. Emergency service via local ambulance, helicopter, and airplane is available to all hospitals.

**TABLE 24 - Licensed Hospitals in the PEDD**

Hospital, WA	County	City & Phone Number	Total Beds (all certified)
<b>Tri-State Memorial Hospital</b>	Asotin County	Clarkston, WA (509)758-5511	62
<b>Dayton General Hospital</b>	Columbia County	Dayton, WA (509)382-2531	25
<b>Garfield County Memorial Hospital</b>	Garfield County	Pomeroy, WA (509)843-1591	54
<b>Pullman Regional Hospital</b>	Whitman County	Pullman, WA (509)332-2541	42
<b>Whitman Hospital &amp; Medical Center</b>	Whitman County	Colfax, WA (509)397-3435	48

**Licensed Hospitals in nearby Idaho**

Hospital, ID	County	City & Phone Number	Total Beds (all certified)
<b>Gritman Medical Center</b>	Latah County	Moscow, ID (208)882-4511	40
<b>St. Joseph Regional Medical Center</b>	Nez Perce County	Lewiston, ID (208)743-2511	145
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>7 Hospitals</b>	<b>407</b>

Source: [www.hospital-data.com](http://www.hospital-data.com)  
Rev. 10-07

The PEDD is home to numerous practicing, licensed medical doctors and several clinics providing healthcare needs, including a comprehensive sports medicine clinic in Pullman. In addition, the Lewiston/Clarkston Valley has a medical lab that provides one-day turnaround for many laboratory tests.

New construction has occurred during the last few years at several area hospitals, and some of the hospitals are offering new services. Some examples of these completed projects and services include:

- Tri-State hospital in Clarkston constructed a facility housing a dialysis unit with 12 outpatient beds and a home training program, as well as an imaging center.
- Pullman Regional Hospital built the first new hospital in the State of Washington in more than 25 years on hospital-owned land next to the medical center on Bishop Boulevard. This creates opportunities for cost-sharing, patient convenience, equipment sharing and other resources due to the adjacent location of the facilities.
- The Whitman Hospital and Medical Center in Colfax constructed a new building for visiting physician specialists and a new surgery wing. As a result, they are actively increasing outpatient and specialty services provided by visiting doctors from urban areas.
- Garfield County Memorial Hospital has added an in-house laboratory for the majority of medical testing, outpatient services, teled and X-ray capabilities.
- Along with primary and acute care, Dayton General Hospital also hosts several specialty clinics. Physicians from Inland Cardiology are on site at Dayton twice monthly to provide cardiology services. Podiatry services are available once a month.

In addition, the use of telemedicine via the Internet has greatly enhanced area hospitals' abilities to offer high-quality healthcare services.

## Skilled & Assisted Nursing Care Facilities

Eighteen skilled and assisted nursing facilities and/or adult family homes are located in the region. Several smaller shelter home facilities and home health services in the four-county area provide similar services. Communities neighboring the PEDD of Lewiston, Moscow, and Walla Walla, also have skilled and assisted nursing facilities. Some of the facilities within the PEDD include the following:

**TABLE 25 - Skilled & Assisted Nursing Care Facilities, Adult Family Homes**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Asotin County</b></p> <p>Avalon Progressive Care - Clarkston            Clarkston Care Center - Clarkston            Clarkston Shelter &amp; Care - Clarkston            Evergreen Estates Retirement Community - Clarkston            Riverview Residential Care - Clarkston            Sycamore Glen Adult Family Care - Clarkston            Tender Care Homes - Clarkston</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Garfield County</b></p> <p>Garfield County Memorial Hospital District &amp; Long Term Care – Pomeroy            Eagle HealthCare - Pomeroy</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Columbia County</b></p> <p>None available</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Whitman County</b></p> <p>Bishop Place, Senior Living - Pullman            Community Pride Senior Living - St. John            The Courtyard - Colfax            Glenhaven Adult Family Home - Pullman            LaDow Court - Garfield            Paul's Place - Colfax            Palouse Hills Nursing Home - Pullman            Tekoa Care Center - Tekoa            Whitman Health &amp; Rehabilitation Center - Colfax</p>
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## Assisted Living

A listing of adult family homes in the PEDD is available through Aging and Long Term Care in Clarkston. The Council on Aging in Colfax also maintains a list of in-home caregivers.

## Dental Care

A variety of dentists provide services in the PEDD with some of them specializing in orthodontics, periodontics, endodontics, and children's dentistry. The Lewiston/Clarkston Valley also has several dental labs that provide one-day turnaround for many laboratory tests. Dental services are also available in the adjoining communities of Lewiston, Moscow, and Walla Walla.

# SOCIAL SERVICES

## Services for Elderly & Low-Income Populations

A variety of agencies in each county provide services for the District's elderly and low-income residents. In addition, many local organizations and churches throughout the District provide food banks and services for low-income residents.

**TABLE 26 - Asotin County Services for Elderly & Low Income Populations**

Asotin County Health District	New Hope Services
Asotin County Housing Authority	Office of Aging & Long Term Care
Asotin County Food Bank	Pautler Senior Center
Asotin County Transit	Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)
Community Action Agency (Lewiston)	RUOK (Are You Ok?)
Department of Social & Health Services (DSHS)	Rural Resources
Gerontology Senior Citizens	Senior Roundtable
Habitat for Humanity	St. Vincent DePaul
Home Care Services	Walla Walla Community College, Clarkston Campus
Home Care of Washington	WorkSource (at WWCC)
Interlink Volunteers	YWCA – Crisis Services
Job Service Center	
Meals on Wheels	

**Columbia County Services for Elderly & Low Income Populations**

Blue Mountain Action Council	Office of Aging & Long Term Care
Columbia County Transportation Services	Project Timothy
Columbia County Health Department	Rural Resources (Clarkston)
Department of Social & Health Services (DSHS)	Senior Center
WorkSource (Walla Walla)	Walla Walla Community College, Walla Walla Campus

***Garfield County Services for Elderly & Low Income Populations***

Blue Mountain Action Council	Pomeroy Medical Clinic
Department of Social & Health Services (DSHS) Located in Clarkston, WA	Salvation Army
Garfield County Food Bank	Rural Resources (Clarkston)
Garfield County Health District	Senior Center / Office for Aging & Long Term Care
Garfield County Human Services	Senior Information & Assistance
Garfield County Transportation	Walla Walla Community College
WorkSource (Pullman/Lewiston)	
Office of Aging & Long Term Care	

***Whitman County Services for Elderly & Low Income Populations***

COAST Transportation	North Palouse Area Food & Clothing Bank
Community Action Center (Pullman & Colfax)	Palouse Industries Thrift Shop
Community Colleges of Spokane	Pregnancy Counseling Services
Congregational Thrift Shop	Pullman Senior Center
Consumer Credit Counseling	Pullman Transit
Dial-A-Ride	Rural Resources
Department of Social & Health Services (DSHS)	Thrifty Grandmothers Shop (Colfax)
Emmanuel Baptist Church	USDA Food Commodities Distribution
FISH Food Bank (Colfax)	Whitman County Council On Aging
Harvest House Thrift Shop	Whitman County Health Department
LaCrosse Clothing Bank	WorkSource (Pullman)

*Rev. 2-08*

# GOVERNMENT

## STATE & LOCAL TAXES

### Corporate and Personal Income Tax

The State of Washington does not impose a corporate income tax. Washington is one of only a few states that does not levy a personal income tax, or impose a tax on intangible assets such as bank accounts, stocks, or bonds. In addition, Washington State does not assess any tax on retirement income earned and received from another state.

### Property Tax

Property taxes are one of the primary sources of funding for local governments. Property tax varies throughout the state, due mainly to voter-approved special levies. The average rate is approximately \$14.00 per \$1,000 of fair market value. Personal property taxes are levied on the assets of businesses only.

### Retail Sales Tax

Retail sales tax applies to most items sold to consumers. In Washington food, food ingredients, and prescription drugs are not taxed. Generally, no sales tax is charged on utility services, personal services (medical, dental, legal, barber, etc.), and real estate (although construction services and building materials are subject to sales tax). The retail sales tax is comprised of both a state and local portion. Within the PEDD the combined rate ranges from 7.5 percent to 7.9 percent.

Taxable retail sales vary within each county with some posting a decline and others showing areas of increase. Please refer to the chart on the next page for more information.

### Deferrals, Exemptions and Credits

The state of Washington offers several tax deferrals, exemptions, and credits making Washington an attractive place to do business. New and existing manufacturers, research and development firms, and certain high technology companies can benefit from several tax incentives. These incentives are intended to encourage the creation and preservation of family-wage jobs in the manufacturing and high technology sectors, particularly where high unemployment exists.

**Sales/Use Tax Exemption on Machinery, Equipment, and Buildings** - Manufacturers, processors for-hire, and manufacturers who locate in the PEDD and perform research and development are not required to pay the sales or use tax on machinery and equipment used directly in the manufacturing or research operations.

**Rural Area Sales/Use Tax Deferral/Exemptions** - This program defers or waives sales/use tax for manufacturing, research and development, or computer-related businesses locating in the PEDD.

**Rural Area Business and Occupation Tax Credit** – A credit against the business and occupation tax ranging from \$2,000 to \$4,000 is available for each new employment position created and filled by specific industries in rural counties.

**High Technology Sales/Use Tax Deferral/Exemption** – This program defers or waives sales and use tax associated with construction, expansion, or renovation of qualified buildings and acquisition of qualified machinery and equipment in research and development, and pilot scale manufacturing in specific industries.

**High Technology Business and Occupation Tax Credit** - An annual credit of up to \$2 million is allowed for businesses that perform research and development in Washington in specified high technology categories and meet minimum expense requirements.

**TABLE 27 - Percent Change in Taxable Retail Sales, 1st Quarter 2006-2007**

<b>County/City, WA</b>	<b>Q1 06</b>	<b>Q1 07</b>	<b>% of Change between 2006 &amp; 2007</b>
<b>Asotin County</b>			
Unincorporated Areas	7,233,083	7,495,106	3.6%
Asotin	1,395,557	943,076	-32.4%
Clarkston	30,090,862	40,804,907	7.6%
<b>Columbia County</b>			
Unincorporated Areas	1,287,133	3,965,565	208.1%
Dayton	5,455,484	7,077,425	29.7%
Starbuck	102,744	106,295	3.5%
<b>Garfield County</b>			
Unincorporated Areas	519,958	561,134	7.9%
Pomeroy	2,904,561	3,311,276	14.0%
<b>Whitman County</b>			
Unincorporated Areas	5,751,243	6,605,834	14.9%
Albion	121,495	143,938	18.5%
Colfax	7,835,299	7,821,294	-0.2%
Colton	343,681	396,512	15.4%
Endicott	176,021	149,077	-15.3%
Farmington	45,198	153,691	240.0%
Garfield	740,592	613,773	-17.1%
LaCrosse	546,957	565,347	3.4%
Lamont	472,050	49,882	-89.4%
Malden	11,915	16,472	38.2%
Oakesdale	704,058	536,742	-23.8%
Palouse	1,143,781	899,665	-21.3%
Pullman	63,039,916	75,942,374	20.5%
Rosalia	402,318	538,051	33.7%
St. John	987,702	1,119,441	13.3%
Tekoa	710,480	635,922	-10.5%
Uniontown	583,354	1,686,184	189.0%

Source: [www.dor.wa.gov](http://www.dor.wa.gov)  
Rev. 10-07

## POLITICAL JURISDICTION

The following table lists the numerous governmental landowners/managers present in the Palouse Economic Development District and the level of government they represent.

**TABLE 28 - Political Jurisdiction**

Governing Jurisdiction	Level of Government
U.S. Forest Service	Federal
Bureau of Land Management	Federal
Department of Energy	Federal
Army Corps of Engineers	Federal
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services	Federal
National Park Service	Federal
Department of Natural Resources	State
Department of Fish & Wildlife	State
Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission	State
Asotin/Columbia/Garfield/Whitman Counties	County
Cities & Towns	Local
Public Utility Districts	Local

Rev. 12-07

# **PARTNERS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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## **ECONOMIC & TOURISM DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS**

### **Regional**

- Rural Resources
- Walla Walla Community College
- Work Source

### **Asotin County**

- Clarkston Chamber of Commerce
- Hells Canyon Visitor Bureau
- Valley Vision
- Port of Clarkston
- Asotin Tomorrow

### **Columbia County**

- Dayton Chamber of Commerce
- Dayton Development Task Force
- Port of Columbia County

### **Garfield County**

- Port of Garfield County
- Pomeroy Chamber of Commerce
- Prosperous Pomeroy Economic Development Committee

### **Whitman County**

- Colfax Chamber of Commerce
- Port of Whitman County
- Pullman Chamber of Commerce & other local chambers of commerce
- Washington State University
- Knowledge Corridor

## **RESOURCES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### **LOCAL, STATE & FEDERAL**

- Department of Commerce
- Economic Development Administration
- Governor's Office of Regulatory Assistance
- Inland Northwest Economic Alliance
- Inland Northwest Partners
- Small Business Administration
- Small Business Development Centers
- Northwest Business Development Association
- Northwest Trade Adjustment Assistance Center
- United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development
- Washington State Office of Community, Trade and Economic Development
- Washington Department of Transportation
- Walla Walla Community College

# OVERVIEW OF ECONOMY

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- The District has a very rural economy with 70,450 residents living in a four county area comprised of over 4,300 square miles.
- Washington State's population continues to grow at a rate more than twice as fast as the District.
- The median age of three of the counties is increasing and the percentage increase is at a faster rate than the state as a whole. The exception is Whitman County with its large student population this is fairly consistent at 24.9.
- Racial diversity, while increasing in many categories, is less than 4% of the population in three of the counties, but nearly 12% in Whitman County with its significant university population.
- The educational attainment of the District shows a decrease in the percentage of population with less than a high school education. The percentage of high school graduates has increased and the number of those attending and graduating from college has significantly increased.
- Residents of the District's four counties continue to earn between 61% and 73% of the state's Median Household Income, although Asotin County is growing at a rate faster than the state; with Columbia County near the state's rate, and Garfield and Whitman counties much slower than the state.
- Asotin and Whitman counties have experienced an increase in per capita income since the year 2000, but Garfield and Columbia counties experienced a decrease. The counties lag 23% to 47% behind the state's level.
- Poverty Status – The District's counties have a larger percentage of families and individuals below the poverty level than Washington State as a whole.
- The distribution of the population by age group shows the District experienced a drop in the prime working ages, particularly the 20 to 35-year old age groups. This indicates younger workers are leaving the area. The exception is Whitman County with its student population; however, it also decreases significantly between the 20-24 and 25-29 age groups.
- The distribution of workers among industries shows the government and service sectors make up nearly 50% or more of each county's workforce when categorized by industry. In total, government and service sector employment account for 65% of all jobs in the District.
- While agriculture, forestry, and fishing make up less than 5% of the employment opportunities, they are still important factors in the economy, requiring many of the government and service sector jobs as support for these industries.
- The location of the District can impact the economy. The distance from major metropolitan areas to the north and west and difficult access to metropolitan areas east and south can make transportation expensive. The geographical constraints of the Rocky Mountains and sheer distances over stretches of wide-open plains add to that difficulty. These concerns increase the importance of transportation routes and telecommunication access. The navigable river channels provide for the economical shipping of products by barge to and from the Port of Portland and other destinations.

- Roads, river, rail, air and telecommunications infrastructure each play a role in developing the region's economy.
  - Roads – Farm to Market and all weather roads are key factors to improving the economy of the region.
  - River – The Columbia – Snake River System is an important factor in the movement of commerce to and from the region. The issue of maintaining a navigable channel has dramatic impacts on the economics of the region. The Snake – Clearwater River system and its attraction as a destination for visitors is also an important factor of the area's economy.
  - Rail – As major rail operators leave the area, short line operations become more critical. The impact of reduced loads on both the river and rail places a heavier burden on the road system and has the effect of increasing transportation costs to a point where economic viability becomes a consideration.
  - Air – The movement of goods and people is a factor of frequency, destinations and costs. It is important to develop an economically feasible scenario that maximizes frequency and destinations while sustaining reasonable costs.
  - Telecommunications – The connection for rural areas to the world can be improved, in many cases, through the use of telecommunications. Much of the District has access to telecommunication infrastructure. However, the challenge is to provide high-speed connectivity throughout the District at affordable rates, while at the same time providing a cost-recovery scenario for the investor.
  
- The basic infrastructure of the region is adequate to address the current growth trends, yet it may face some specific challenges going forward. Water rights, sewer systems, and solid waste disposal issues are generating more interest as the region develops.

## **INTERNAL TRENDS AND FORCES**

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### **STRENGTHS**

- Variety of freight movement
- Low cost water transportation
- Waterfront access
- Agricultural and natural resources
- Recreational opportunities and tourism
- Quality of life and Climate
- Availability of undeveloped land
- Room for expansion
- Supportive local elected officials
- Telecommunications infrastructure
- Universities/higher education
- Progressive community college programs
- Progressive Port districts

### **WEAKNESSES**

- Preparing students for work in industrial fields
- Small and underemployed workforce
- Outward migration of workforce
- Resistance to change
- Zoning and building codes in some areas are restrictive and selectively enforced
- Availability of zoned and serviced land and buildings
- Funding opportunities

# EXTERNAL TRENDS AND FORCES

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## OPPORTUNITIES

- Stable housing market, compared to national market
- Additional universities and colleges
- Recreation
- Additional manufacturing businesses
- Technology companies (data centers, teleconferencing capabilities)
- Labor pool to draw from outside region
- International markets
- Escape from urban gridlock
- Opportunity for renewable energy development using the PEDD's remarkable wind, sun, and water resources

## THREATS

- Lack of capacity on transmission grid
- Limited transportation modes
- State government legislation
  - Legislators not living here (primary focus on Western Washington – needs are different)
  - Reliance upon and sustainability of grant funding
- International pressure
  - Limitations/restrictions on product development
  - Globalization – overseas production
- Threat of dam removal
- Federal regulations on municipal infrastructure

# REGIONAL VISION & GOALS

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## PEDD VISION STATEMENT

**Drawing on the rich heritage and natural resources of the region, the Palouse Economic Development District is committed to enhancing economic vitality and an unparalleled quality of life through partnerships with business, civic interests, and government for the benefit of the residents of Asotin, Columbia, Garfield, and Whitman Counties.**

The region is building a competitive advantage in several areas to help achieve the vision, such as the following examples:

- Educational Institutions - The District has outstanding K-12 systems and access to numerous institutes of higher education. These include progressive community colleges and research universities.
- Advanced Technology – Bioscience, plant research, advanced material technology, shock physics, and high tech firms, many being spin offs from research conducted at the area’s universities, are located in the District. Fostering relationships with these technology-based interests will help diversify the region’s economy.
- Agriculture/Natural Resources – This category has been a traditional mainstay of the District. The interest in biodiesel, alternative fuels, wineries, and grass fed livestock is providing the region with more value-added opportunities.
- Renewable Energy – The District is well positioned to take advantage of new technologies in the growing renewable energy sector. Ample wind, sun, and water resources, the ability to grow bio-fuels feedstock, and the open space for project development together create a competitive advantage for the region.
- Tourism – The rich recreational opportunities, the historical nature of the area, its scenic by-ways, and its mild climate provide for growth and development in this arena. Through promoting these opportunities, visitors come into the District who will spend time and money in our communities.
- Healthcare – The District is well served by its healthcare institutions. Each county has access to medical care with populated centers having access to hospitals and care facilities. In addition to serving the current population, the industry serves as a major attribute to the growing active retiree community.

## GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The following Goals and Objectives are intended to increase job creation, capital investment, and tax base. The District recognizes that it can only accomplish this economic growth through the success of individual businesses. Within the District, various groups and organizations throughout each county assist in enabling the private sector to make the investment in jobs and capital, thereby increasing the tax base.

## **Capacity Building**

The planning process can only go so far before it becomes time to take action. But prior to taking action there is opportunity to look at different options and their feasibility. It is through this activity that options are developed, evaluated, and ranked for practicality and return on investment. Once this is determined, preferred courses of action and investments can be more wisely pursued.

**Goal:** To develop the region's ability to plan for prosperity

**Objectives:**

- Support feasibility studies that identify opportunities to expand local capacity and resources for economic growth and vitality.
- Develop a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the four county District.
- Develop and foster economic development partnerships with other organizations and businesses.

## **Workforce**

A critical component to the District's economic growth and well-being is its workforce. The new and expanding companies in the region need qualified and available workers in order to realize their potential. Accomplishing this requires a partnership between education/training institutions and workforce agencies.

**Goal:** To increase the availability, skill level, and productivity of the District's workforce.

**Objectives:**

- Identify locations and industries experiencing workforce shortages and needs.
- Work with Workforce Development Council, Work Source, the local Manufacturers Association, and other agencies to ensure an adequate labor force exists throughout the District.
- Partner with educational institutions (K-20) to increase the skill sets of the workforce and to ensure students become fully aware of local job availability.

## **Housing**

The issue of housing may not traditionally be seen as an economic development issue. But in our area where housing shortages negatively impact the ability of companies to secure their needed employment base, it becomes an issue for economic developers. Some of our District's communities are unable to attract needed workers because of the limited stock of desirable and affordable houses.

Increases in housing prices in this area have far exceeded increases in wages over the past several months. The PEDD will work with other agencies to ensure the availability of the workforce is not hampered by housing issues. In addition, much of our increase in population is retirees, so the PEDD will also support efforts to ensure senior living options are available as needed.

**Goal:** To increase the availability of housing options for the residents of the area.

**Objectives:**

- Support and encourage affordable housing throughout the region.
- Encourage the development of adequate assisted living and retirement facilities.
- Ensure affordable workforce housing is readily available in areas convenient to employment opportunities.

## **Community Development and Infrastructure**

The provision of basic infrastructure is important to the growth of an area's economy. This includes ensuring adequate services, utilities, land, and facilities are available. Working to maintain basic services and increase those services is necessary to create a vibrant economy.

**Goals:** To encourage development, maintenance, and operations of facilities, utilities, and services necessary to support economic development.

**Objectives:**

- Work to increase the availability of zoned serviced industrial land.
- Facilitate the development of vibrant downtowns.
- Support, facilitate, and promote adequate funding for improved and expanded telecommunication, water and sewer systems, and the availability of other utilities.
- Ensure transportation modes including air, rail, river, roads, and public transportation are preserved, maintained, and improved.

## **Business Development**

The basis of most economic development efforts center around business startup, expansion, retention, and recruitment. These remain an important part of our efforts to grow quality jobs, investment in the District, and tax base. A comprehensive approach will be utilized to reach the goal of increased economic vitality for the region.

**Goal:** To enhance economic vitality through recruitment, startup, retention, and expansion of business ventures.

**Objectives:**

- Facilitate establishment of private business ventures in the District.
- Market the business attributes of the region.
- Promote the growth and sustainability of existing businesses within the region through identifying and addressing business needs.

## **Tourism**

The tourism and visitor trade industry is a growing and increasingly important factor in the District. The rural nature of the region, its proximity to the Walla Walla wine country and Hells Canyon, its natural attributes, the presence of major cultural amenities, and a number of nearby universities make this an obvious economic engine for the region. Even with all these advantages it requires a focused effort and partnerships to maximize the benefits of this industry.

**Goal:** To foster the development of visitor trade throughout the District.

**Objectives:**

- Support impact studies and feasibility studies related to tourism and increased visitor revenues.
- Support improvements and creation of appropriate tourism facilities and community tourism partnerships.
- Support efforts to increase the capacity to maximize visitor's length of stay.

## **Additional Planning Tasks**

The District will also engage in broader-based activities that will contribute to the above-listed goals and objectives and also assist in growing the regional economy. This includes participation in state and regional efforts. The PEDD recognizes that the synergy resulting from

collaboration is priceless, and that we must therefore interact with other groups and organizations in order to provide the best service to the region. Partnership activities include working with the following groups:

- **Inland Northwest Economic Alliance:** This is a group of Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho economic development organizations and professionals that have joined together to jointly market the area to southern California companies. The PEDD will continue to work with this group to grow the region's economy.
- **Inland Northwest Partners:** This organization is made up of cities, counties, chambers, and economic development organizations throughout the inland northwest. The partners meet three times a year for training, education, and sharing of resources and successes. The PEDD will continue to participate with the Partners in efforts to advance economic development.
- **Washington Economic Development Association:** This is a statewide association comprised of economic development professionals and supporters of economic development. The organization serves as the voice of economic development in the State of Washington. The PEDD formerly had two of its staff members serving on the Board of Directors of this association and will continue to support its activities.
- **Clearwater Economic Development Association:** The CEDA office is located across the river from the southeastern boundary of the PEDD with each of us serving some of the largest geographical areas in each state respectfully. It is important that we continue to work together and share information in order to maximize our resources, particularly since we draw from the same labor pool.
- **North Idaho Manufacturers Association:** While this organization is mis-named, particularly since it now includes all four of the counties in our Washington District, it has proven to be a critical partner in our attempts to resolve issues faced by the manufacturers in our region. A survey recently completed by NIMA identified several issues that we are partnering with them to resolve. This will help to ensure that our manufacturers, a significant sector in the economy of our District, remain viable and have the opportunity and support to grow, particularly as they face workforce and other issues.

## COUNTY PROJECTS

### Asotin County

#### Capacity Building/Planning

*5 year*

- Improve working relationships and encourage the continued collaboration and meeting of elected officials and administrators in Nez Perce County, Asotin County, and Cities of Lewiston, Clarkston, and Asotin in order to discuss items of common interest, opportunities to consolidate services, and to expedite common goals.

#### Education and Training

*5 year*

- Prepare a plan and design for a Student Services Building at Walla Walla Community College-Clarkston.
- Support Walla Walla Community College in establishing a vocational education program including a culinary arts program, and construct a building for the programs in Asotin County.
- Encourage further development of the healthcare industry through a broader array of education and training programs.
- Develop worker training programs for alternative energy projects.

- Partner with Lewis-Clark State College's vocational tech programs.
- Partner with all neighboring colleges and universities to develop workforce development training opportunities.

*10 year*

- Work towards accomplishing the Walla Walla Community College Clarkston master plan.

**Infrastructure** (Roads, River, Rail, Air, Water, Sewer, Energy, Telecom, Solid Waste, Transportation, Utilities, etc.)

*5 year*

- Develop an adequate supply of zoned and serviced industrial lands and buildings.
- Support the expansion of air service at the regional airport.
- Support and implement transportation plans being developed through the MPO and RTPO planning process.
- Work with the Corps of Engineers and the Confluence Waterfront Coalition to maintain a navigable river system that promotes commerce.
- Support implementation of recommendations from the Confluence Waterfront Coalition regarding the restoration of recreational and commercial docking facilities along the river system to optimum operating conditions.
- Construct sidewalks where needed, particularly on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, to ball fields and bike path.
- Support the Port construction of rental buildings and associated infrastructure when feasible and needed.
- Improve safety at the entrances to the Southway Bridge from Hwy 129.
- Promote additional modern telecommunications infrastructure in Asotin County.
- Expand wastewater treatment capacity.
- Expand the sewer system to include additional unincorporated areas of Asotin County.
- Encourage the Port of Clarkston in its consideration of the acquisition of land to construct a new industrial park.
- Determine need for adequate jail capacity.
- Adopt Asotin County Bike-Pedestrian Plan, and support bike/ped path extensions: 1) from Clarkston to Chief Timothy Park, including connection to Confluence Project; 2) through the City of Asotin and up the Snake River; and 3) along Scenic Way.

*10 year*

- Construct two 2-million gallon water storage reservoirs.
- Construct two booster pump stations.
- Develop a new water production well.
- Develop adequate jail capacity.

**Business Development**

*5 year*

- Assist local companies to expand their markets and their employment opportunities.
- Market the area to prospective businesses.
- Encourage private development, particularly in the Aquatic Center area.
- Support the growth of the grape and wine industries throughout the region.

*10 year*

- Support the planning and development of a new industrial park.

## **Tourism**

*5 year*

- Support impact study concerning tourism by segment: conventioners, cruise boats, Hells Canyon, etc.
- Support new Valley-wide tourism bureau.
- Develop and implement a Waterfront Development Master Plan, and support recommendations from Confluence Waterfront Coalition.
- Explore the benefits and pursue, if appropriate, the National Heritage Designation.

## **Housing**

- Support affordable and available housing options.
- Work to ensure adequate assisted living facilities are available.
- Support development of upscale retirement facilities/communities.
- Support development of affordable retirement facilities/communities.

## **Community Development**

*5 year*

- Continue improvements to the public transportation system in Asotin County, including capacity and accessibility.
- Expand and improve access to bike and pedestrian paths.
- Investigate and pursue, if feasible, the creation of a Park and Recreation District.
- Continue development of baseball field and sports complex with amenities.
- Support retention and further development of Aquatic Center.
- Implement community clean-up, including junk cars and trash, and beautify areas beyond downtown Clarkston, including flowers, paint, etc.
- Address EKO odor issues.
- Encourage school support across broader base of community members.

*10 year*

- Adequately fund public safety.
- Construct a new Post Office with adequate parking.

## **PORT OF CLARKSTON**

### **Goal #1**

Maintain and expand effective, strategic leasing program:

- Maintain effective leasing program.
- Expand inventory of property and buildings for leasing and possible sale.
- Explore revising lease language on assignments to subleases to protect Port.
- Assist in creating multi-jurisdictional group to do Phase 0 EPA assessment for entire county.

### **Goal #2**

Diversify regional economy through small business development and/or implementing results of cluster analysis:

- Take leadership role in developing active, vibrant waterfront.
- Create better business start-up environment utilizing partnerships (NxLevel, Business Boot Camp).
- Examine industry clusters within jurisdiction, encouraging healthy industries and identifying supporting businesses with relocation potential.
- Seek opportunities to diversify the economy.
- Seek renewable/sustainable energy options for constituents with view of bringing new related industries to the Port of Clarkston.

- Promote tourism facilities, participate in tourism development activities, and explore benefits of ownership in accordance with new authority.
- Create more regional partnerships for economic growth (NIMA, Blue Mountain Corridor).

### **Goal #3**

Enhance transportation options for the County and Valley:

- Port Manager continue to serve on Rural Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) and MPO Technical Advisory Committee to facilitate partnerships and information exchange.
- Continue to advocate for sustaining and maintaining the dams and navigational channel, including adequate appropriations.
- Seek additional ways to enhance transportation options.

### **Goal #4**

Maintain and enhance assets of Port:

- Maintain park, surrounding area, and unleased property to keep them clean and attractive.
- Keep Port roads and paved pathways in good condition.
- Procure additional equipment, as needed, to assure effective operations.
- Landscape where needed, remodel where beneficial.
- Enforce “clean port” expectations where tenants are concerned; tighten lease language.
- Assist where possible in reducing smell in community to make it more attractive to businesses and improve resident’s quality of life.
- Convene Architectural Review Committee and encourage recommendations on design criteria.

### **Goal #5**

Seek options for future crane operations that will result in return on investment on Port crane:

- Hire back-up crane operator and train.
- Tour other Ports’ loading and unloading facilities to increase understanding of possibilities and processes.
- Procure additional equipment as needed.
- Invest in dredging as needed.
- Explore needed improvements at west end of crane dock.

### **Goal #6**

Improve public outreach to constituents, including strategic outreach on industrial park:

- Increase Port’s visibility in community through interaction/presentations, seeking public opportunities to educate, including listening sessions.
- Improve web site, adding webcams.
- Develop Port “Report Card” and publish.

### **Goal #7**

Create organizational cohesion:

- Staff to review and make recommendations on vision statement, guiding principles, running public meetings, and the need for revising the comp plan.

## **CITY/COMMUNITY PROJECTS**

The following are listings from Asotin County Cities & Communities that submitted projects for the CEDS.

### **Anatone**

Short Range (up to 5 years):

1. Refurbish welcome sign at the entrance of town with new materials, and landscape area around it.
2. Acquire defibrillator to provide emergency medical resuscitation for community members and visitors that may be in need.
3. Identify advantages and disadvantages of fire protection models: keeping fire protection in the responsibility of the Dept. of Natural Resources (as-is), or establish a fire district.

Mid Range (up to 10 years):

1. Identify funding sources, plan for, and develop a wastewater treatment system.

### **Asotin**

Short Range (up to 5 years):

1. Dredge riverbed, clean up waterfront area, and re-install a marina and docks.
2. Enhance bike path:
  - Bike path bridge over creek along highway.
  - Extend bike path up Snake River Road.
  - Extend bike path through Corps property to boat ramp and expand parking.
  - Work with County to provide access to bike path from 13<sup>th</sup> Street.
3. Renovate, or encourage renovation of, Jerry Flour Mill, to include commercial activity such as music, arts, historical tours, etc.
4. Develop RV Park, campground, or other overnight accommodations.
5. Implement Downtown Revitalization efforts, including building facades, trees, flowers, & Events.
6. Start a Farmer's Market on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street on Saturdays from spring to fall.
7. Improve telecommunications:
  - Free wireless Internet
  - Improve cell phone coverage and landline service
  - More high-speed Internet access
8. Repave 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.
9. Establish a Youth/Teen Center (such as a Boys & Girls Club, YWCA, skate park) to be located at either the Fairgrounds or a vacant building in town.
10. Improve neighborhood appearances.
11. Repair sidewalks and streets.
12. Enhance, preserve, protect, and increase the awareness of the community's best attributes (water, quietness, small-town feel, schools, clean air).

Mid Range (up to 10 years):

1. Recruit a small IGA-type grocery market.

Long Range (up to 20 years):

1. Build an underpass across highway for students to safely access bike path from the school.

## **Clarkston**

Short Range (up to 5 years):

1. Extend sidewalks from the City of Clarkston into the Port area.
2. Replace water distribution mains and services, as needed.
3. Enhance all the entrances to the City of Clarkston including signage.
4. Prepare a Downtown Revitalization Plan, to include Bridge Street (Highway 12).
5. Beautify Diagonal Street.
6. Support retention and further development of Aquatic Center.
7. Implement community clean-up, including junk cars and trash.
8. Expand wastewater treatment capacity.

Mid Range (up to 10 years):

1. Plan and construct new public facilities (police, city hall, EMS/Fire).

## **Columbia County**

### **Capacity Building/Planning**

*5 years*

- Secure community grant writer for funding community projects.
- Maintain efficient planning department with certified staff.
- Plan cooperatively between municipalities.
- Provide leadership training with emphasis on younger generation.
- Create legislative committee to maximize funding opportunities and communications.
- Build relationships and connectivity for geographic realities.
- Provide public education to improve use of high-speed internet capabilities.
- Maintain and/or increase funding for economic development programs.

### **Education and Training**

*5 years*

- Work with WWCC (and/or WSU) to open branch or satellite office.
- Encourage Vo-tech programs at Dayton High School.
- Develop youth entrepreneurial program.
- Encourage active participation in regional workforce training board.
- Research community workforce need, then develop programs to meet established needs.
- Form Private Industry Committee to survey businesses and meet workforce training needs.
- Improve relationships with high schools and colleges.
- Provide incumbent worker training.

**Infrastructure** (Roads, river, rail, air, water, sewer, energy, telecom, solid waste, transportation, utilities, etc.)

*5 years*

- Install Touchet Valley Golf Course sprinkler system.
- Increase electric transmission line.
- Increase sewer capacity for industrial use.
- Continue supporting improvements to the short line railroad.
- Inventory vacant land and buildings.
- Improve the water and sewer system infrastructure of the City of Dayton.
- Improve the street infrastructure.
- Improve safety, access, and ADA accessibility for pedestrians on Hwy. 12 bridge across Touchet River.
- Improve cellular phone service county-wide.

- Improve high speed internet access in rural areas.
- Create public access to local small airfield.

*10 years*

- Improve railroad tracks to include passenger service.
- Improve safety, access, and ADA accessibility for pedestrians on Hwy. 12 viaduct on E. Main Street.

## **Business Development**

*5 years*

- Recruit cellulosic ethanol businesses.
- Encourage alternative fuels production facility (oilseed crushing/biodiesel or ethanol blending).
- Facilitate small business technical assistance and workshops.
- Develop value added agriculture (niche products).
- Encourage development of wind generation project.
- Encourage biomass energy production.
- Create targeted marketing strategy for business recruitment.
- Assist Seneca in maximizing redevelopment of processing facility.
- Continue to improve stability of local hospital district.

## **Tourism**

*5 years*

- Establish historical and general signage.
- Encourage ski condominium community.
- Improve tourism web sites.
- Develop Ag-tourism.
- Publish recreational map of Columbia County.
- Restore a historic home to be open for year-round tours.
- Encourage the establishment of cabin rentals.
- Improve Touchet Valley Golf Course for increased ADA accessibility, youth programs, and more efficient irrigation system for enhanced marketing opportunities.
- Expand interpretive center on Indian, geologic, and settlement history of the county.
- Encourage and improve West entrance to Dayton.
- Maintain and enhance existing railroad depot.
- Construct walking/biking path from courthouse to fairgrounds and extend the bike path to the fairgrounds.
- Construct arches across highway at both entrances to town.
- Reconstruct or replace fairgrounds pavilion (see Community Development).
- Establish public art, i.e. sculptures, etc.

*10 years*

- Develop walking/biking path between Dayton and Waitsburg.
- Restore an old turn-of-the-century farmhouse and/or barn.
- Set up a farm museum.
- Improve, enhance, and expand the local golf course.
- Build a bandstand on the courthouse lawn.
- Improve courthouse grounds.

## **Housing**

*5 years*

- Address and encourage affordable housing needs in Dayton and Starbuck.
- Develop adequate Senior and retirement housing.
- Rehab community housing (possibly with CDBG funds).

## **Community Development**

*5 years*

- Upgrade or move Columbia County fairgrounds.
- Expand recreational opportunities at Bluewood.
- Develop or construct bike trail between Pomeroy and Walla Walla.
- Develop multi-age community center.
- Encourage youth activities - establishment of Teen Center – Skate Park.
- Move and restore Smith Hollow School House.
- Encourage development of Sports Complex.
- Expand physical space and program capabilities of the Liberty Theater.

## **PORT OF COLUMBIA COUNTY**

### **Goal #1**

Maintain and grow Rock Hill Industrial Park and Seneca Business and Industrial Park:

- Create available space for business development.
- Assist tenant businesses with retention and growth requirements.
- Evaluate and make necessary changes to marketing plan to promote knowledge of available facilities.

### **Goal #2**

Actively encourage economic diversification and new development:

- Develop a marketing strategy to identify a niche market to target for business recruitment and development.
- Undertake active recruitment of identified targeted industries.
- Identify and assist in the development of alternative products, markets, and industries.
- Create living wage job opportunities.
- Promote tourism as a viable industry.

### **Goal #3**

Encourage a balanced and economical multi-modal transportation system:

- Improve relationship with shippers and operator of Blue Mountain short-line railroad.
- Facilitate Washington State Department of Transportation's Rail Rehabilitation Project on Port-owned rail lines.
- Partner and participate in the RTPO to address regional transportation issues.
- Support continued navigation on the Columbia/Snake River system.
- Support the continuation of short line rail operation within the Port District and throughout the State.

### **Goal #4**

Maintain access to water for use by the public:

- Operate Lyons Ferry Park & Marina in cooperation with the Corps of Engineers.
- Replace non-functioning pump-out station, improve irrigation system, and update restrooms at Lyons Ferry Marina.
- Investigate opportunities to increase income and reduce costs while continuing maintenance of the park and marina.
- Grow the marina and park facilities and amenities as demand increases and where feasible.

## **Goal #5**

Assist Port District communities by supporting economic development projects, programs, and partnerships:

- Acquire feasible sites within the Port District for cooperative development with interested communities and firms.
- Work in partnership with Port District communities, public agencies, and the private sector to enhance countywide economic development.

## **Goal #6**

Continue acquisition, development, and management of Port property and facilities:

- Maintain a flexible, market-rate leasing policy responsive to the needs of the Port District.
- Construct public port facilities as warranted by market demand.
- Pursue acquisition of additional land at all port sites when occupancy reaches 75 percent or when invited and economically feasible.
- Incorporate proactive environmental planning with industrial development.

## **Garfield County (includes City of Pomeroy)**

### **Capacity Building/Planning**

*5 years*

- Develop volunteer pool.
- Develop area marketing strategy to attract new business.

### **Education and Training**

*5 years*

- Support the increase and development of the health occupation workforce.
- Support the increase and development of the manufacturing workforce.
- Support the increase and development of wind turbine technician workforce.

**Infrastructure** (Roads, river, rail, air, water, sewer, energy, telecom, solid waste, transportation, utilities, etc.).

*5 years*

- Support development of a community daycare.
- Update area planning:
  - Update floodplain maps.
  - Prepare GIS maps for the entire county.
- Improve critical local infrastructure.
- Continue to evaluate and maintain high-speed telecommunications systems.
- Continue pursuing renovation to Garfield County Courthouse through the Washington Courthouse Initiative.
- Enhance municipal facilities including the golf course, swimming pool, and play equipment at the City Park.
- Repaint and repair the exterior of the Denny Ashby Memorial Library.
- Support continued renovations of the Spinner's Hall.
- Support repairs and maintenance of the Garfield County Food Bank.
- Enhance the aesthetic quality of Main Street/Hwy. 12 through mandated cleanliness efforts.
- Repair and enhance bridges within the City of Pomeroy.
- Improve Fire District services:
  - Acquire additional property for expansion of present facilities.
  - Purchase new firefighting equipment and vehicles.
- Improve Hospital District facilities and services:

- Construct new entrance and new wing for hospital facility.
- Relocate the District business offices.
- Improve the laboratory.
- Create new emergency entrance and guest waiting area.
- Relocate physical therapy facility.
- Replace electrical system.
- Improve nurses' area in Long Term Care.
- Renovate resident accessible personal laundry area in Long Term Care.
- Improve living and common areas of Long Term Care utilizing Creating Home model.

## **Business Development**

### *5 years*

- Market available Port District properties and other commercial space.
- Attract small manufacturers.
- Research and partner with site selection services for business recruitment.
- Attract new businesses and encourage competition in the business district.
- Support development of whiskey distillery project.
- Promote the expansion and/or development of overnight accommodations.
- Promote Farm Tours.
- Support wind energy development throughout Garfield County.
- Develop a maintenance facility for wind energy equipment.

### *10 years*

- Build an indoor equestrian facility.

### *15 years*

- Research and/or develop alternative fuels facilities (i.e. ethanol, bio-diesel or wind energy).

## **Tourism**

### *5 years*

- Continue to support and host the Wild West Road Rally.
- Develop and construct Pioneer Plaza downtown pocket park.
- Promote the construction of a recreational vehicle park/tent camping area.
- Continue support of new and existing eating establishments.
- Develop resources and plan to make Pomeroy a travel destination.
- Implementation of Pomeroy Downtown Revitalization Master Plan:
  - Improve Senior Center and recover usable space for various community needs.
  - Upgrade City Hall.
  - Improve signage.
  - Develop joint city center for Chamber, PEDC and Tourist Information.
  - Develop Downtown Marketing Plan and create position for Project Manager.
  - Develop uniformity of sidewalk/street plantings.
  - Paint murals in appropriate locations.
  - Promote the restoration of historic buildings throughout the county.
- Support and expand opportunities for the development of arts and culture through the Pomeroy Community Center:
  - Acquire facilities of 3 historic structures.
  - Restore and rehabilitate historic structures: Elsensohn/Cardwell Building, Seeley Theatre, and Central Drug Store building.
  - Build capacity for expansion of programs including health and wellness, continuing education, and the arts.
- Continue improvements to city sidewalks.
- Plan and construct paths and trails for bicycles and pedestrians.
- Enhance/expand downtown museum.

- Continue to develop Ag History museum.
- Continue to improve parking in Pomeroy.
- Build a skateboard park.
- Complete enhancement of Centennial Boulevard from 12<sup>th</sup> Street to 18<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Continue support of new and existing eating establishments.
- Improve Garfield County Fairgrounds:
  - Replace roofs on main buildings.
  - Expand Hog Barn and wash racks.
  - Improve electrical wiring to vending booths.
  - Improve water system.

## **Housing**

*5 years*

- Improve and develop single and multi-family housing units.

*10 years*

- Develop assisted living facilities.

## **PORT OF GARFIELD**

### **Goals**

*Within 1 year*

- Construct a new 4,800 square foot industrial facility.
- Market the new industrial facility for business recruitment.
- Be actively involved in tourism promotion.
- Stay actively involved in the Wild West Road Rally.
- Research and visit with motel developers.
- Finish the RV park /campground at the port site.
- Develop a new Port of Garfield web site.
- Visit with possible windmill developers.
- Research and understand fundamentals of windmill operations.

*Within 5-10 years*

- Assist motel developer in constructing motel for Garfield County.
- Expansion of RV park if needed.
- Expansion of industrial facility as needed.
- Work with wind developers.

## **Whitman County**

### **Education and Training**

*5 year*

- Coordinate with area businesses to determine workforce and workforce skills shortages that need addressed.
- Coordinate development or extension of workforce training.
- Continue to work with WSU extension in applicable economic development.
- Continue to support Whitman County Port for its Innovation Partnership Zone needs.
- Meet with USDA area reps to better utilize programs.
- Coordinate towns/cities with USDA to help provide needed infrastructure.

- Build a county employee training program via the Community Education & Training Center to upgrade worker skills.
- Work with WHITCOM to apply for a grant for reserve dispatchers.
- Help create new programs at the CETC.

**Infrastructure** (Roads, River, Rail, Air, Water, Sewer, Energy, Telecom, Solid Waste, Transportation, Utilities, etc.)

*5 year*

- Encourage development of all weather road corridor.
- Support keeping dams in place.
- Support maintaining rail and Port of Whitman governance.
- Encourage and support growth at the Pullman Regional Airport.
- Support expansion of high speed Internet throughout the county.
- Identify funds for developing infrastructure.
- Support Port Industrial Park Expansion in Pullman.
- Continue to support funding for CRAB & TIB in its important role for County and City roads.
- Find a way to get adequate water to the SR 270 corridor for development.
- Continue to support Palouse EDC and ADO for both economic and community development.
- Develop Wawawai - Lower Granite Road.

**Business Development**

*5 year*

- Support and encourage development of high tech businesses in the region i.e. Innovation Zone and Green Info Technology Alliance.
- Work towards improving technology transfer from WSU to the economy.
- Support existing businesses by providing educational opportunities, networking and joint promotional opportunities via Palouse EDC and ADO.
- Encourage the start-up of local business by assisting interested individuals through the start-up process and helping them identify potential niches and site selection via the Palouse EDC and ADO.
- Work to identify and recruit businesses that are suitable to the region via Palouse EDC and ADO.
- Encourage development of alternative energy sources.
- Continue to work with Port, INWP, CTED, Palouse EDC on recruiting opportunities.
- Search out manufacturing businesses in the recreational industry.
- Encourage development of businesses that work with local products and encourage and support expansion of agricultural related businesses (organic, value added).

**Tourism**

*1 year*

- Continue promotion of County Parks events, people, and places.
- Create image through marketing, websites, and publications via ADO & Scenic Byways.
- Coordinate the publication of brochures and other means of attracting visitors to the region.

*5 year*

- Work with area chambers and communities to highlight events and coordinate networking of towns and a more regional approach via Palouse EDC and ADO.
- Continue updating state and other regional websites via Palouse EDC and ADO.

## **Housing**

*1 year*

- Support and encourage the development of affordable housing in or near Pullman.

*5 year*

- Have an affordable housing project on the ground coordinated through Community Action Center.

## **Regional Partnerships**

- Actively continue support of Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee Research on aquifer issues.
- Create MOU with City of Pullman on SR 270 corridor for revenue sharing.

# **PORT OF WHITMAN COUNTY**

## **Goal #1**

Actively encourage Port District economic diversification:

- Develop and assist with projects/resources for Innovation Partnership Zone in Pullman to foster new economic growth through research, internal recruitment and training opportunities.
- Identify and assist in the development of alternative products, markets and industries.
- Undertake active recruitment of targeted industries.
- Create living wage job opportunities.
- Partner with Washington State University to aggressively pursue technology transfer.
- Promote tourism as a viable industry.

## **Goal #2**

Encourage a balanced and economical multi-modal transportation system:

- Manage maintenance of existing rail access at all port sites operated by the Port District.
- Manage, operate and maintain the Port of Whitman Business Air Center's general aviation airport and industrial park.
- Continue to participate as a partner in the operation, maintenance and improvement of the Pullman-Moscow Regional Airport.
- Partner and participate in the RTPO to address regional transportation issues.
- Support continued navigation on the Columbia/Snake River system.
- Support the continuation of short line rail operation within the Port District and throughout the State.

## **Goal #3**

Assist Port District communities by supporting economic development projects, programs, and partnerships:

- Acquire feasible sites within the Port District for cooperative development with interested communities and firms.
- Work in partnership with Port District communities, public agencies and the private sector to enhance countywide economic development.

## **Goal #4**

Maintain Boyer Park & Marina for public use:

- Continue to maintain the free day use areas of Boyer Park & Marina as a public service to the citizens of Whitman County.

- Investigate opportunities to increase income and reduce costs while continuing maintenance of the park and marina.
- Grow the Park's facilities and amenities as demand increases where feasible.

### **Goal #5**

Continue acquisition, development and management of Port property and facilities:

- Maintain a flexible leasing policy responsive to the needs of the Port District.
- Construct public port facilities as warranted by market demand.
- Pursue acquisition of additional land at all port sites when occupancy reaches 75 percent or when invited and economically feasible.
- Incorporate proactive environmental planning with industrial development.

### **Goal #6**

Complete telecommunications infrastructure to facilitate Port District-wide capacity:

- Work within the guidelines of SSB 6675 to build telecommunication infrastructure.
- Maintain and increase partnerships to enhance telecommunications services and link networks.

## **Washington State University**

Short Range (up to 5 years)

1. Complete Compton Union Building Renovation
2. Complete Martin Stadium Phases 1 and 2 Renovations
3. Complete 18-hole Championship Golf Course, Practice Facility, and Clubhouse
4. Complete Rotunda Dining Hall Renovation
5. Complete Biotechnology/Life Sciences Facility Building
6. Complete Library Road Mall
7. Secure funding for Veterinary Medical Research Building
8. Secure funding for Waste Water Reclamation
9. Secure funding for Student Housing
10. Secure funding for Clean Technology Laboratory
11. Secure funding for Martin Stadium Phase 3
12. Secure funding for US Agriculture Research Service Building
13. Secure funding for Hotel/Conference Center
14. Secure funding for Design Disciplines Building

## **Whitman County Hospital District and Medical Center Projects**

Short Range (up to 5 years)

1. ER services 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. A newly constructed Emergency Department in one year.
2. A new Radiology Department to house state-of-the-art digital imaging services, including CT, mammography, ultrasound and mobile MRI services.
3. Childbirth education.
4. Community Health Outreach:
  - Health Watch Program.
  - Diabetes Education.
  - Nutritional Counseling.
5. Telehealth program – Health Ed.; Specialty physicians; ED; pharmacy; meetings.
6. One-on-one nursing care of laboring mothers and newborns, newborn hearing screenings, steak dinners for new parents, diaper bags with infant care items, massage for new mothers, and educational videos for parents on baby care, infant first aid and CPR.
7. State-of-the-art gastrointestinal services.

8. Onsite, emergency rooftop helicopter transport facility.
9. Whitman Specialty Clinic (asthma/allergy, nephrology, urology, neurology, podiatry, cardiology, ophthalmology, oncology, gastroenterology neurosurgery).
10. Respiratory Therapy services 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.
11. Adult and pediatric rehabilitation services (physical, speech, massage, occupational therapies).
12. Whitman Medical Group – an independent practice (on-site).
13. Three Forks Orthopedics – an independent practice (on-site).
14. Integrated Electronic Medical Information Systems.
15. New \$19 million dollar addition under construction.
16. Fixed MRI on-site 2 year plan.

## **Whitman County Rural Library District Projects**

Mid Range (up to 10 years)

1. Upgrade and keep pace with the most current computing and transmission technologies for library service within our 13 branch locations and for services accessed through the library's website. These include improvements to the library's computing infrastructure of hardware, software and every level of computing.
2. Continue to improve the library's telecommunication infrastructure.
3. Participate in cooperative relationships with other entities to improve the services provided to library customers.
4. Improve the Library District website and the services and products available there.
5. Provide intensive outreach and training for community members of all ages on a variety of topics, workshops, programs and instructional classes.
6. Continue to encourage community donations as a means of long-term support for library services and facilities.
7. Capital projects to improve the library's 13 locations and outreach locations. These include but are not limited to:
  - o Build a new library in St. John.
  - o Extensively update the Colfax building including an elevator to the Colfax Library and other upgrades to address ADA standards.
  - o Add a public fountain or garden area outside the Colfax Library.
  - o Purchase and remodel the Hamilton Building that sits adjacent to the Colfax Library (Possible use might be staff offices, main floor meeting space, cultural center, or more).
  - o Continue improving library buildings system-wide, including ADA improvements.

## **CITY PROJECTS**

The following are listings from Whitman County Cities that submitted projects for the CEDS.

### **Albion**

Short Range (up to 5 years):

1. Produce a set of digitized maps from new aerial photographs.
2. Conduct engineering and environmental studies to determine land use possibilities in flood plain.
3. Upgrade Internet communications and phone lines.
4. Renovate/repair/remodel/repaint Community Center.
5. Install elevator for senior and disabled citizen access to second floor of Community Center.
6. Construct Safety Building for Fire, Ambulance, and Police Departments on Front Street land owned by City.
7. Remodel present Fire Department facility to create youth recreation center in Community Center.

8. Improve Community Park toddler and youth play areas and equipment.
9. Build a skateboard facility and/or dirt bike area for Albion youth.

Mid Range (up to 10 years):

1. Find funding for establishing a local recreational program for all ages.
2. Purchase property for new 200,000-gallon water storage tank.
3. Construct new 200,000-gallon water storage tank to provide for increased population growth and fire demand.
4. Expand sewer to accommodate increased growth (aeration system or another lagoon).
5. Publish a town brochure giving information about services, facilities, organizations, policies, and events.
6. Upgrade substandard housing, and/or build affordable housing units for low and moderate-income residents.
7. Install bleachers at Community Park ball field.
8. Repair split-rail fence at City Park, and add new sections of fencing as appropriate.

## Colfax

Short Range (up to 5 years):

1. Begin work on Mill Street - Phase One.
2. Improve sewage sludge removal system.
3. Replace Thorn Street booster station.
4. Explore option of extending new water line from Glenwood to annexed area.
5. Replace new Southview reservoir.
6. Reconfigure intersection at S. Main/Highway 195.
7. Install new regulation sized tennis courts.
8. Obtain and develop community center building.
9. Partner with Chamber to make Visitor Center.
10. Participate with community in business recruitment.
11. Support Transportation Improvement Projects as outlined in Resolution No. 04-06.
12. Construct public restrooms.
13. Extend the sewer line from Sixth Street to the new annexed land by Schmuck Park.
14. Work with the county to replace the bridge at Sixth Street.

Mid Range (up to 10 years):

1. Install a second siphon at all siphon locations.
2. Reconstruct secondary treatment ponds.
3. Continue water conservation programs.
4. Extend water service along SR 26.
5. Upgrade to hypochlorite generation at wells.
6. Establish a water line loop between Hillcrest and Cherry.
7. Reconstruct Morton –Third to Tyler.
8. Reconstruct Tyler –Morton to SR 195.
9. Purchase land for RV parking near McD Park.

## Colton

Short Range (up to 5 years):

1. Purchase Water Rights.
2. Construct new sidewalks, curbs, and drainage for streets.
3. Buy/lay 8 inch water piping to improve fire flow.
4. Build an addition to Town Hall for handicapped accessible bathroom.
5. Build a new water tower for water storage or add a pressure system.

Mid Range (up to 10 years):

1. Build and design a new wastewater treatment system.

## **Endicott**

Short Range (up to 5 years):

1. Complete construction of new water system.
2. Fund and construct new emergency services/community building.

## **Farmington**

Short Range (up to 5 years):

1. Continue to rehabilitate the sewer system.
2. Clean Pine Creek within town.
3. Purchase additional park property.
4. Plan and install new water services and meters for residences.
5. Install new windows and winterize fire station.
6. Purchase and install new playground equipment.
7. Renovate old jail; establish incubator for local cottage industry.
8. Develop information center for McCrusky Park.

Mid Range (up to 10 years):

1. Construct an additional water reservoir.
2. Complete Phase Two of sewer system rehab and sewer lagoon rebuild.
3. Upgrade water service lines.
4. Purchase equipment and site for composting of lawn and garden waste and tree trimmings.

Long Range (up to 20 years)

1. Build larger water tower.

## **Garfield**

Short Range (up to 5 years):

1. Build gazebo/bandstand for the park.
2. Conduct feasibility study for new fire station with training area.
3. Retrofit old fire station into expanded community center and enlarge library space.
4. Develop Water System Plan.
5. Update inventory of vacant/available commercial space.
6. Explore ways to recruit more housing availability.
7. Extend water and sewer system into newly annexed areas.
8. North 4<sup>th</sup> St. (Hwy 27): Level off sidewalk on west side, replace sidewalk with railing, add retaining wall, pave shoulders on both sides, possibly add new street lights.
9. Fix rainwater infiltrating sewer system to allow for more capacity at sewer plant.
10. Provide air conditioning for library.
11. Install new street signs.
12. Acquire additional storage for city shop.

Mid Range (up to 10 years)

1. Extend water and sewer system into newly annexed areas.
2. Main St. from Hwy 27 to east end of town: Replace sidewalks, pave shoulders, replace street lights.
3. California Street 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> St: Renovate storefronts.
4. Secure large facility for Community Center.

## **La Crosse**

Short Range (up to 5 years):

1. Improve sewage disposal system (upgrade lagoons, and construct a new lagoon, and other related upgrades):
  - Repair or replace much of collection system.
  - Add secondary treatment and upgrade final disposal.
  - Replace pressure line from Lift Station #2 to Lagoon #1.
  - Update electrical and controls.
2. Improve potable water system (upgrade entire system).
3. Replace and/or install new sidewalks on 2nd and Star Streets.
4. Repair back shop wall and level up roof lines.
5. Re-roof Shop.
6. Replace or repair park restroom.
7. Replace pump control system.
8. Install underground sprinkler system for park or cemetery.

## **Lamont**

Short Range (up to 5 years):

1. Pave and install sidewalk on following loop: 4th Street to Spokane St.; Spokane Street from 4th to 8th Street, and 8th street from Spokane to Main St.
2. Chip seal Main and 9th Streets.

## **Malden**

Did not participate.

## **Oakesdale**

Short Range (up to 5 years):

1. Finish work on Willows Bldg to house recycling facility.
2. Locate funding for public restrooms near SR 27.
3. Locate funding for RV parking with water, sewer and electric hookups.
4. Locate funding and property for a helipad to be used by area air ambulance service providers.
5. Look into possibilities of remodeling the area above the Library to include in Business Incubator Program.
6. Update Comprehensive Plan and develop medium to long range plans for Oakesdale.
7. Update Capital Improvement Plan to include plans to improve water distribution system.

## **Palouse**

Short Range (up to 5 years):

1. Develop, through new construction, a Community Center complex including an outdoor courtyard.
2. Develop East Main Street.
3. Encourage commercial development.
4. Install new swimming pool bleachers with shade.
5. Upgrade and/or build new, the city maintenance shop and storage area.
6. Develop a municipal RV park offering water, sewer, electrical and telecommunications services.
7. Continue to develop a nature trail/walking path system along the Palouse River and abandoned railroad beds.

8. Acquire the Palouse River Mobile Home Park. This project involves the removal of all infrastructure and buildings within this MH park that lies on the bank of the Palouse river. This includes the buy-out or relocation of current residences and the removal of abandoned units. Riparian and riverbank restoration work will then be performed.

Mid Range (up to 10 years):

1. Build a municipal skate park.
2. Recruit high-tech and light industrial businesses.
3. Develop business park/light industrial site. Municipal infrastructure currently in place includes:
  - Water, sewer and storm drain infrastructure.
  - Rail access.
  - Highway access (SR 27 and SR 272).
  - Telecommunications access.
4. Continue upgrading of arterial streets in Palouse. This includes gravel to asphalt surface upgrading as well as reapplying asphalt overlays to existing improved streets.

Long Range (up to 20 years):

1. Construct a new water tank reservoir on the South Hill in Palouse.
2. Construct new cemetery outbuildings and restrooms.
3. Improve recreational facilities to include (but not limited to):
  - New ball fields/play field complex for football, soccer, baseball, softball.
  - Trap/skeet shooting facility.
  - Golf course.
4. Improve water distribution system for low pressure areas.

## **Pullman**

Short Range (up to 5 years):

1. Extend water, sewer, and treated effluent utilities into the Pullman urban growth area portion of the Pullman-Moscow corridor.
2. Resurface Bishop Boulevard.
3. Provide fire flow water improvements and sewer service to the Pullman-Moscow Regional Airport.
4. Construct a wading/spray pool.
5. Construct a shower facility at the Recreational Vehicle Park.
6. Expand Lawson Gardens to include features identified in the Master Plan update.
7. Develop and implement landscape and industrial buffers on North Grand Avenue to enhance commercial and pedestrian uses.
8. Develop a site plan and implementation for the Itani Park site.
9. Upgrade wastewater treatment plant.
10. Replace Spring St. Bridge.
11. Replace Kamiaken St. Bridge.
12. Upgrade Pullman-Moscow Regional Airport.
13. Continue to enhance transit services.
14. Increase the number of bus routes.
15. Prepare storm water management plan and development standards.
16. Expand the fleet maintenance shop and construct a new fuel island.

Mid Range (up to 10 years):

1. Provide a south by-pass.
2. Provide a north by-pass.
3. Expand potable water storage capacity.

Long Range (up to 20 years):

1. Develop pedestrian/bicycle paths in accordance with adopted Pedestrian/Bicycle plan.
2. Build a new City Hall.
3. Provide a beltway road connection for the northwest portion of Pullman.
4. Provide a beltway road connection for the southwest portion of Pullman.

## **Rosalia**

Short Range (up to 5 years)

1. Rebuild two railroad crossings.
2. Replace 700 more feet of 8-inch plastic main line in high zone area.
3. Develop recycle center for waste oil.
4. Secure funding for 24/7 public restrooms at Texaco Station location.
5. Replace 3,000 feet of 4" pipe with 8 " plastic and add 9 new hydrants.
6. Complete city council chambers.
7. Complete design phase of waste water treatment plant.
8. Upgrade city airport/rehab taxiway.
9. Chip seal 1/2 mile of streets.
10. Begin construction on waste water plant.

Long Range

1. Chip seal all streets.
2. Do maintenance chip sealing each year of approximately 1/2 mile.
3. Apply a 2" asphalt overlay on Whitman Ave. from 8th St. to south city limits.
4. Continue new water line & hydrant installation.
5. Extend water and sewer service north of town and annex property.
6. Continue to prosper and grow.

## **Saint John**

Short Range (up to 5 years):

1. Move and upgrade sewer treatment plant and upgrade sewer lines.
2. Improve water distribution system to include replacement of at least one well.
3. Improve telecommunications including cell phone service and internet service to make the business climate more attractive.
4. Improve streets.
5. Enhance recreational facilities in area to include a lighted bike/walking path; enclose and upgrade swimming pool; and improve city park.
6. Create St. John brochure and build web page. Provide Visitor Information and participate in Whitman County tourism efforts.
7. Develop Business Park.
8. Improve fairgrounds including a horse barn and arena.
9. Expand RV services.
10. Beautify waterway through downtown St. John.
11. Preserve and enhance the downtown area.
12. Construct a new building for Whitman Medical Group.
13. Attract a bio-fuel production facility to St. John.
14. Construct a new water reservoir.
15. Add pedestrian bridge on Park Street.

Mid Range (up to 10 years):

1. Improve Highway 23 between US 195 and Interstate 90.
2. Improve railroad crossings in the area.

## **Tekoa**

Short Range (up to 5 years).

1. Prepare feasibility study to provide infrastructure to airport.

2. Add new sewer lines.
3. Add new water lines.
4. Recruit business and industry.
5. Construct hiking and biking trails.
6. Enhance recreational facilities in city parks.
7. Build skateboard arena.

Mid Range (up to 10 years)

1. Add new sewer lines.
2. Add new water lines.
3. Prepare Wastewater Facilities Plan.
4. Renovate Old Empire Theatre (historical project).
5. Build affordable housing.
6. Build a new reservoir.
7. Build a new sewage treatment plant.
8. Build industrial park at local airport.

**Uniontown**

Short Range (up to 5 years):

1. Line sewer lagoons.
2. Install sprinkler system at Holzer Park.
3. Recruit business to town and create a brochure.
4. Construct bike/pedestrian path between Uniontown and Colton.
5. Preserve buildings that are part of Uniontown's history.
6. Update the Comprehensive Plan.
7. Grade, pave, add sidewalks & drainage to the St. Boniface-Church street loop.
8. Inspect/repair reservoir.

Mid Range (up to 10 years):

1. Encourage more housing units.
2. Develop creek park or fishing pond.

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

The following is a listing, by county, of a sampling of the accomplishments of the last year:

**Asotin County**

1. Improved fire insurance rating from eight to five.
2. Completed Valley-wide tourism study.
3. Completed Phase One of baseball field and sports complex
4. Completed construction of new Health Sciences building at Walla Walla Community College – Clarkston campus.
5. Created the Confluence Waterfront Coalition and began waterfront master planning.
6. Completed a Visitors Center feasibility study, with CTED providing funding assistance.
7. Obtained a CERB grant for a new industrial park feasibility study.
8. Increased regional collaboration through the Southeastern WA and North Central ID consortium and the Blue Mountain Corridor collaborative.
9. Obtained a grant for transient boat dock planning and permitting.

## **Columbia County**

1. Began phase III of the wind turbine project.
2. Started new community event: "Dayton on Tour."
3. Created the Rural Library District.
4. Completed portion of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street road improvements.
5. Expanded Liberty Theater.
6. Began third historic district.

## **Garfield County**

1. Developed feasibility study for business recruitment for the Port District.
2. Developed business recruitment plan.
3. Developed marketing study for Port.
4. Renovated existing and developed new facilities for business recruitment at Port.
5. Completed upgrade to Centennial Blvd from 12<sup>th</sup> St. – 18<sup>th</sup> St.

## **Whitman County**

1. Completed the SR270 corridor road rebuild.
2. Partnered with the Hawkins Development Group for corridor business development.
3. Added Communications Specialist to county staff to consolidate all public radio infrastructure.
4. Success in getting state to recognize and fund PRCC rail.
5. Supported the Port in acquisition of new land for industrial park.
6. Supported the Port in the IPZ successful grant.
7. Supported regional water issues: i.e. water summit, PBAC.
8. Finished Phase Two planning of WIRA34, and started Phase Three implementation.
9. Eliminated park parking fees to the public.

## **Colfax**

1. Paved walking/jogging path along river.

## **Endicott**

1. Received funding for new water system.

## **LaCrosse**

1. Completed backflow device for cemetery.
2. Completed electrical hookup at cemetery.

## **Lamont**

1. Replaced water mains in Garfield, Spokane, and Eighth Streets.
2. Added to the capacity of the water supply by replacing a 50,000 gallon reservoir with a 150,000-gallon reservoir.

## **Palouse**

1. Completed Heritage Park Town Square and restroom facility.
2. Constructed a new public safety building.
3. Extended sanitary sewer to Fisher's Addition.
4. Received funding to rebuild Whitman Street.
5. Relocated Police Department to old fire station.
6. Completed construction of a waste treatment plant sludge storage facility.

## **Rosalia**

1. Completed sewer line bursting (4,000 feet).
2. Replaced 4" water lines with 6 " or 8" plastic from 9th St. to Josephine St and Josephine St. to Whitman Ave. (900 feet behind school) and 3 hydrants.

**Saint John**

1. Built and furnished a new public service building that includes city hall, library and other amenities.

**Tekoa**

1. Completed Airport Feasibility Study.

**Uniontown**

1. Prepared wastewater facilities plan.
2. Connected new well to system.
3. Identified and repaired water leakage from water system.
4. Updated the water facilities plans.

**Port of Whitman County**

1. Received a \$50,000 CERB grant for the Green IT Center for Excellence feasibility study.
2. Recipient of an Innovation Partnership Zone designation and \$1 million grant for land acquisition and the launch of the Green IT Center for Excellence at the Pullman Industrial Park.
3. Purchased 30+ acres to be annexed into the City of Pullman for expansion of the Pullman Industrial Park.
4. Constructed taxiway improvements at Port of Whitman Business Air Center.
5. Constructed new dry storage building (by Central Ferry Dry Fertilizer) at Central Ferry.
6. Expanded the Port fiber optic network in Pullman to service the City of Pullman, the Pullman School District, and several private sector companies.
7. Planned and constructed a new Port shop, a new rental building, and a dry fertilizer loading area at the Port of Whitman Business Air Center.
8. Sold two lots at the Port of Whitman Business Air Center to local businesses.
9. Sold the Merman Drive building in Pullman to a local business.
10. Sold a lot at the Pullman Industrial Park to a local business.
11. Sold the Port warehouse building at the Pullman Industrial Park to its long-term tenant, Rivermasters Engineering.

## **CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION**

Specifically outlined in the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Guidelines (CEDS) are the reporting requirements for any CEDS document. Initially, a full-scale document is written and submitted to the EDA for approval. Once approved, copies are made and sent to all appropriate interested state and local parties. The document will remain available for review and comment by those interested.

As an EDD we have prepared a CEDS and submitted it for approval. The following criteria outline the steps that will be taken by the Palouse EDC to meet the reporting and updating requirements of the CEDS process.

A report will be generated annually and will include the following:

- Adjustments to the CEDS as needed.
- A report on the previous year's economic development activities and any significant changes in the region's economic conditions.
- An evaluation of effectiveness in meeting goals.
- A schedule of achievable goals for the coming year.

In addition to the annual report, the CEDS document will be revised or updated every five years. This process may take place sooner if it is deemed necessary by the EDA. Changes made to the CEDS document may be made upon resolution of the area CEDS committee, and concurrence of the EDA. Any amendment will also meet the previously mentioned requirements.