

The Portland Development Commission's Neighborhood Economic Development Strategy identifies Venture Portland's programs as critical to fostering economic opportunity and neighborhood prosperity throughout Portland. Since November of 2010, Venture Portland provided nearly 1,000 hours of training and personal technical assistance to business leaders throughout the city. Additionally, last year the organization awarded \$80,000 to fund 39 business district projects, leveraging an additional \$150,000 in private investment, with 75 percent of the funding used for start-up efforts.

"When developing the Neighborhood Economic Development Strategy it was clear Venture Portland would play a crucial role in the plan," said Patrick Quinton, Executive Director of the Portland Development Commission. "Their long-standing commitment to Portland's neighborhood business districts will be instrumental to our business community's success."

Looking forward, Venture Portland will draw on the strength of its board, the largest in the organization's history, to continue growing business and connecting neighborhoods. Last year Venture Portland's board members contributed 1,300 volunteer hours on top of the hours spent running their own businesses and business districts.

About Venture Portland

Venture Portland means business. Through grant funds, trainings, and technical assistance the organization invests in the smart, strategic growth of Portland's unique neighborhood business districts. Portland's neighborhood business districts comprise approximately 16,000 businesses and nearly 200,000 jobs. Venture Portland's board leadership comes from 30 diverse business districts city-wide that collectively represent local, regional, national, and international demand for goods and services. Visit ventureportland.org for more information.

For more information:

LeAnn Gentry, 503.477.9648, leann@ventureportland.org

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