

## U.S. House Approves \$400,000 for Salem's Mill Creek Corporate Center

The U.S. House of Representatives has approved \$400,000 for Mill Creek Corporate Center, announced **Congressman Kurt Schrader (D-OR)** who requested the funding for the project. The funding will be used for infrastructure water line looping improvements that will increase the water pressure for fire safety and expand its use for over 500 developable acres at Mill Creek. The funding is included in the FY2010 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act.

"These infrastructure improvements mean jobs now and economic development in the future for Salem," said Schrader. "Mill Creek has the opportunity to bring thousands of high quality jobs to Salem and I look forward to continuing to work with Mayor Taylor and city officials to make these jobs a reality."

At 650 acres, the Mill Creek Corporate Center, located in the southeast corner of the Salem urban growth boundary, is one of the largest industrial properties with undeveloped acreage along the I-5 corridor in the Northwest. The site is likely to be a huge economic development project for the area as it has direct access to regional transportation facilities, including I-5, Highway 22, rail facilities, the Port of Portland, and a proximity to a large labor force.

Local leaders, like Salem Mayor Janet Taylor, were quick to thank Congressman Schrader for his work on this project. "Thanks to the efforts of Representative Schrader, Salem is close to receiving an appropriations earmark for \$400,000 to begin infrastructure improvements at the Mill Creek Corporate Center in southeast Salem," said Taylor. "We deeply appreciate his representation of

our area and his efforts to obtain this appropriation. Bringing Mill Creek on-line will ensure future jobs for our citizens."

The primary purpose of the Mill Creek Corporate Center and the Salem Renewable Energy Park is job creation. When completed these properties are expected to generate private development that will create 5,000+ jobs, invest one billion dollars in the regional economy, transfer nearly 600 acres from public to private ownership, and create 110 acres of wetland and open space.

The differences between the House and Senate versions of the FY2010 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill will need to be worked out in conference before Congress sends a final bill to President Barack Obama for his signature.

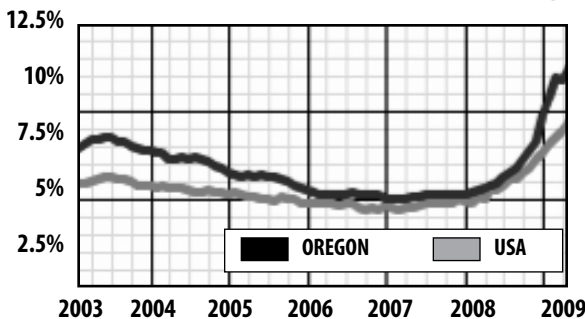
Also, a key Congressional panel explored new proposals for improving small businesses' ability to access capital. Representative Schrader, the Chairman of the House Small Business Committee's Subcommittee on Finance and Tax, said that access to capital remains the fundamental challenge facing small firms as they struggle to respond to the recession.

"From high-tech start-ups to Main Street mom-and-pop restaurants, small businesses everywhere cannot find the credit they need to survive, retain employees and grow their businesses," said Schrader. "As a small business owner myself I understand that our priority needs to be continuing to find ways to get affordable credit into the hands of entrepreneurs, so they can spur job growth."

*For more information visit [schrader.house.gov](http://schrader.house.gov).*

### ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Additional information  
@ [www.qualityinfo.org](http://www.qualityinfo.org)



#### UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

SALEM MSA	June 2009	May 2009	June 2008
Raw Data	11.5%	11.3%	5.8%
Seasonally Adj.	11.7%	12.1%	5.9%
OREGON			
Raw Data	12.1	11.9	5.8
Seasonally Adj.	12.2%	12.2%	5.9%
USA			
Raw Data	9.7	9.1	5.7
Seasonally Adj.	9.5%	9.4%	5.6%

Salem MSA Non-Farm Payroll Employment	June 09	May 09	+/- May 09
<b>TOTAL PRIVATE</b>	<b>102,200</b>	<b>101,900</b>	<b>300</b>
Natural Resources & Mining	1,200	1,100	100
Construction	7,600	7,400	200
Manufacturing Total	11,200	10,900	300
Durable Goods	5,200	5,300	-100
Nondurable Goods	6,000	5,600	400
Food Products Mfg.	4,200	3,800	400
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	24,400	24,300	100
Wholesale Trade	3,700	3,700	0
Retail Trade	16,900	16,800	100
Transportation, Wrhs & Utilities	3,800	3,800	0
Information	1,200	1,300	-100
Financial Activities	7,300	7,300	0
Professional and Business Svcs.	11,700	11,600	100
Admin and Support Svcs.	5,800	5,800	0
Educational and Health Svcs.	20,000	20,500	-500
Health Care & Social Assistance	17,800	17,600	200
Health Care	14,700	14,700	0
Leisure and Hospitality	12,400	12,200	200
Accommodation & Food Svcs.	10,800	10,800	0
Other Services	5,200	5,300	-100
Government	43,400	43,500	-100
Federal Government	1,600	1,600	0
State Government	21,200	21,200	0
State Govt Educational Svcs.	2,300	2,200	100
Local Government	20,600	20,700	-100
Tribal Government	1,900	1,900	0
Local Govt Educational Svcs.	10,700	10,900	-200

Source: Worksource Oregon

## USDA Rural Development Funding Opportunity - RCDI Program

Approximately \$6.2 million of grant funds will be awarded to projects that involve a nonprofit, public, or tribal group receiving (and matching) the RCDI grant, and using these funds to provide capacity-building technical assistance to other rural nonprofits or communities for housing, community, or economic development projects.

RCDI grants can range from \$50,000 to \$300,000. Awards will be made via a national competition among applicants. The deadline for applications is 4:00 P.M. on September 24, 2009. Oregon applications should be submitted to the Oregon State Office.

Further details about the RCDI program along with application rules can be found in the official Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA): <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-15128.pdf>

Application materials can be downloaded from: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/rcdi/index.htm>

Any potential applicant interested in submitting an application is encouraged to review the material and contact me to discuss the structure of the proposed project and its objectives.

Contact John J. Brugger, USDA Rural Development, Portland. Call (503) 414-3362 or visit our web site, <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/or>.

## Legislative Update

Due primarily to tax increases for businesses and higher income individuals, this year's session was not the best for businesses in Oregon, however from an economic development perspective, it could have been worse. Here's a summary of legislation important to the state's business climate.

### HB2699-A

#### Prevailing Wage Requirement for Enterprise Zones

Died in committee in the Senate after passing in the House. This legislation was opposed as it would have required certain projects (companies) within an enterprise zone to pay prevailing wages for construction of new facilities.

### SB 726

#### Creation of New Reservation Enterprise Zones

Passed. The zones offer eligible companies a state income tax credit equal to tribal taxes paid by private businesses – now both on tribal trust land as well as on reservations.

### HB 2067

#### Creates/Adjusts Sunset Dates for Oregon Tax Credits

Passed. Tax credits impacted by the bill include alternative fuel stations, Business & Energy Tax Credits (BETC) biomass, electronic commerce enterprise zones, film production and research.

### HB 2067

#### Increases personal tax rates for upper income individuals

Passed. Oregon's 9% marginal personal income tax rates was already among the highest in the nation, and for 2009-2011, the tax is 10.8% for income greater than \$125,000 and 11% above \$250,000 (for joint returns). For 2012 onwards, the rate is 9.9% for the same income thresholds. Oregon is already one of the most dependent on personal income taxes, and with its passage, goes further away from revenue diversification. The tax will ding headquarter facilities, innovation-related companies and other entrepreneurial ventures where higher salaries prevail in the marketplace.

### HB 3405

#### Changes Corporate Income Tax Rates

Passed. With this bill, Oregon now has a two-tiered tax rate on corporate income, which is due only insofar as it exceed a minimum excise tax under a graduate graduated schedule ranging from \$150 to \$100,000 and tied to total sales in state.

## Upcoming Member Events & Seminars

Monday, August 13th - OGA Tukwila Golf Course, Woodburn - 8:00 am  
**Friends of Agriculture Tournament by Agri-Business Council of Oregon** - To register go to [www.aglink.org](http://www.aglink.org) or contact the ABC office at 503-595-9121.

Wednesday, August 26th - 11:50 am - 2:00 pm  
**Green Technology: Opportunities and Challenges in the US and Japanese Markets**

Presented by Ken Sakai, President of Pacific Dreams Inc.

Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott (Portland South) in Lake Oswego  
**For information call 503-783-1390.**

August 26th & August 27th - 8:30 am - 5:00 pm - MaPS Credit Union  
**Leadership Development - Situational Leadership II (SLII®)**

A model and a set of tools for opening up communication and helping others develop self-reliance. It is designed to improve performance and abilities, gain commitment, and retain talented individuals. **Email [gettheedge@mapscu.com](mailto:gettheedge@mapscu.com) by August 19th or visit [www.mapscu.com](http://www.mapscu.com).**

August 28 - September 7th

### Oregon State Fair

With more than 9,000 things to do, see and taste, the 2009 Oregon State Fair is going to be too big to miss. This is the BIG BIRTHDAY BASH celebrating Oregon's 150th! Over 365,000 people attended last year and the Fair features all the state's best, with the fairgrounds becoming the second largest city in Oregon for eleven days!

**Visit [www.oregonstatefair.org](http://www.oregonstatefair.org).**



Friday, September 11, 10:00 - 11:30 am

### Emerging Global Food Markets - Opportunities and Challenges

Dr. Tom Reardon, Michigan State University

Department of Agriculture, Food & Resource Economics

World Trade Center, Building 2 - Portland Conference Center Auditorium

The last 20 years have witnessed the unprecedented rise of supermarkets not just in the developed world, but also in emerging markets. This together with the globalization of the food chain has transformed traditional agricultural and food export opportunities. Oregon's agricultural and food sectors now literally face a challenge and opportunity of global proportion. How we respond to these developments may largely define the strength and future of Oregon agriculture and our rural communities.

You are invited to what promises to be a stimulating, brainstorming talk by **Dr. Reardon of Michigan State University's Department of Agricultural, Food & Resource Economics**. He will explore world trends and suggest strategies on how Oregon can emerge as a global "winner" in the dynamic new world market. There is no charge for this event, but an **RSVP would be appreciated to [jeff.deiss@or.usda.gov](mailto:jeff.deiss@or.usda.gov).**

For a complete list of events visit [www.sedcor.com](http://www.sedcor.com).



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Thursday, August 13th, 2009 — 12:00 - 1:30 pm  
Events at Copper Hill

**What's Happening in Oregon Agriculture**  
**Katy Coba**

Director, Oregon Department of Agriculture



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