

South Sound

CHAMBER CONNECTIONS



WORK TOGETHER
for the **greater** good



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THOUGHTS FROM THE CEO

WHAT WHY HOW *Jobs?*

We all know that small business accounts for 80% of job creation in this country. In a marketplace that continuously evolves to reach local and global consumers, how do we define success when we talk about jobs?



Rebecca Martin, CCE
Greater Federal Way Chamber CEO

Small to mid-size companies are the foundation of our business base in Federal Way. In fact, 90% of the business licenses issued at the City are for companies with 10 employees or less. Clearly, the potential for job growth within our economic footprint is strong.

At the Chamber, we ask: What kind of family sustaining jobs are we seeking? Why would a business be interested in offering jobs here? Where will employees live and work? The answers to these questions can drive business attraction, retention, and expansion efforts. But, more importantly, we first must ask ourselves: how do we know which jobs will work for our community? Economic growth must come from within the business community as it works in partnership with other stakeholders to develop strategies for job creation.

According to the Brookings Report, Remaking Economic Development, while the process of developing business has the potential to influence growth through action and investment, it requires a broader, more inclusive view of the economic landscape. In other words, are the right stakeholders at the table?

Business builds business. At its heart, economic development is, like the Chamber itself, an ecosystem that seeks engagement with different markets— and the businesses within them- to create growth.

Economic ecosystems are business clusters which provide products, goods, and services within their industry or geographic network. For the Chamber, economic development can prioritize building ecosystems for core industries. This is done, in part, by identifying and supporting our established and emerging business clusters.

The Chamber, for example, appreciates the City working with the first boutique winery in Federal Way—an industry already thriving in communities which surround us. One winery opens every day in Washington—this industry is an economic engine throughout the state. And with work underway at the City to address codes, zoning, and permitting, this business ecosystem has the potential to introduce an industry cluster which includes wineries, microbreweries, and distilleries. All of which will support tourism while creating new jobs here in Federal Way.

Building on industry clusters, our business climate will better enable small businesses to start and grow even as it supports the globally competitive firms located along our business corridor.

So now, I ask you, what do we have to do to get a chocolatier?



 **GREATER FEDERAL WAY**
Chamber of Commerce

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STAFF

Rebecca Martin, CCE, IOM
President & CEO

Jay Hamann
Economic Program Mgr
jhamman@federalwaychamber.com

Rachel M. Porter
Membership & Marketing Mgr
rporter@federalwaychamber.com

LaRaye Rushing
Communications & Publications Mgr
lrushing@federalwaychamber.com

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Roegner Consulting

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Highline College

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Beaux Arts Photography,
Chris Leavitt Photography,
Bruce Honda, William Fuller

federalwaychamber.com
253.838.2605

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WORK TOGETHER for the **greater** good

Efforts to retain, expand, and attract business are tied to a business climate that practices respectful, reasonable, and inclusive leadership.

Working together for the greater good is the foundation of every successful public / private partnership in America – and Federal Way is no exception. Collaboration strengthens all of our efforts to enhance our economic future.

The Chamber recognizes the critical role collaboration plays for investment decision-making. “We’ve seen the impact working together has not only within our member businesses but also with our Pivotal Partners,” said Chamber Board Chair Mark Sims.

The Chamber is committed to working in partnership with community stakeholders as it convenes, facilitates, and networks the business community to issues and ideas.

“The plan works if you work the plan,” says South King Fire and Rescue Commissioner Mark Thompson. “And the best plans are developed cooperatively and collaboratively.”

Collaboration is a rallying cry for all of us living and working in the Federal Way to take responsibility for the atmosphere we create for economic growth.

“Long term sustainability for our community is best served when our planning processes are open and inclusive,” said Commissioner Len Englund, Lakehaven Water and Sewer District.

Like our business leaders, the Chamber, is committed to working together on shared mutual goals. Sounds great! How is it done? The Chamber has put together a program – based on some national models – with eight tips for collaboration.

Work Together for the Greater Good is available as a presentation. Contact the Chamber for booking at 253.838.2605.

8 points of collaboration

- 1 Be Inclusive**
Welcome all citizens working for the greater good of the community
- 2 Listen**
Focus on others in order to better understand their points of view
- 3 Show Respect**
Honor other people and their opinions, especially in the midst of a disagreement
- 4 Be Open Minded**
Look for opportunities to agree; don't contradict just to do so
- 5 Take Responsibility**
Don't shift responsibility and blame to others
- 6 Celebrate Ideas**
Welcome diverse opinions and reframe conflict
- 7 Know the Facts**
Be truthful and don't gossip
- 8 Get Involved**
Be aware of the world and the people around you

Welcome

TO THE CHAMBER NETWORK



Citizens for Federal Way Schools
Brent Williams-Ruth
citizensforfwschools.org

P.O. Box 26522
Federal Way, WA 98093
425.830.5134



Connect Wireless
Brenda Snider
connectwireless.com

1507 S 348th St K2-101
Federal Way, WA 98003
208.287.5471



Fitted Supply
Genny McFarland
fittedsupply.com

1020 S 344th St, Ste 210
Federal Way, WA 98003
253.719.8530



Friends to Elect Jesse Johnson
Jesse Johnson
jessejohnson.nationbuilder.com

1830 S 336th St, Unit G201
Federal Way, WA 98003
206.379.1590



iLoveKickboxing.com
Debbie Harrer
ilovekickboxing.com

1320 S 324th St, Ste A4
Federal Way, WA 98003
206.429.2585

NWCC Center Plaza, LLC
Joanna Barnhart

1402 E Pike St
Seattle, WA 98122
206.423.3105



Planet Fitness
Holly Berens
planetfitness.com

1211 S 320th St
Federal Way, WA 98003
206.429.7429



Technology Access Foundation
Tyrone Cunningham
techaccess.org

605 SW 108th St
Seattle, WA 98146
206.725.9095



Time Out Ale House
John Foley
timeoutalehouse.com

34525 16th St South
Federal Way, WA 98003
253.838.0086

New Members from May 31 - July 31, 2017.
Find our new members in the online directory at federalwaychamber.com.

MEMBERS

Makin'

IT HAPPEN



BEING AN ACTIVE PART OF THE CHAMBER HAS GIVEN ME GREATER NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES AS WELL AS VALUABLE BUSINESS LEADS."

- Michelle Wallace, Chair, Chamber Ambassadors



Contributing Photographers: Beaux Arts Studio Photography, Chris Leavitt Photography, Rachel M. Porter, LaRaye Rushing

GREAT SCHOOLS = STRONG COMMUNITY & PREPARED WORKFORCE



Aging Buildings, Overcrowding and Enhanced Safety Needs Addressed with November 7 Bond Proposition

Federal Way Public Schools serves a community that is committed to investing in the success of each scholar having a voice, a dream and a bright future. On the November 7 ballot is a bond proposition to construct new classrooms and replace and renovate aging school facilities in the Federal Way Public School district. The Greater Federal Way Chamber endorsed the tax-neutral bond at its June Board meeting.



The \$450 million 2017 bond the proposition was recommended to the superintendent by a 100-member committee of parents, community members, and business leaders. The recommendation was based on objective criteria to assess building conditions as well as learning environment assessments performed by third parties.

On June 13, 2017, the Federal Way Public Schools (FWPS) Board of Directors unanimously approved a new and modernized facilities bond proposition to address aging, deteriorating facilities, overcrowding at elementary schools, and enhanced safety and security district wide. The \$450 million bond proposition will not increase the total tax collection.

This means the average homeowner will continue to pay a tax rate of \$2.05 per \$1000 of assessed valuation.

SCHOOL FACILITIES NEEDS AND FACTS RELATED TO 2017 BOND PROPOSITION

In FWPS, there are 19 buildings plus Memorial Stadium that are 40 years or older. The average year these buildings were built is

Approval of the November 2017 bond proposition will not increase the total tax collection. Current tax rates* for the FWHS Levy and current school bonds total \$2.05 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

For every \$100,000 in assessed valuation, current payments total \$205.00. A home value of \$250,000 pays \$512.50 a year, or about \$1.40 a day.

**Individual Tax rates can fluctuate based on changes in assessed valuation.*

1965 with 14 schools built between 1956 and 1968. Five of these 19 schools, plus Memorial Stadium opened between 1970 and 1976.

Schools serving grades K-5 are overcrowded. The K-5 elementary schools were built to serve 9,160 scholars, and are currently serving 10,263 scholars, more than 1,000 over capacity. Student enrollment is on the rise with a projected growth of about 1% each year.

Safety enhancements are also needed, including security cameras and addressing outdated buildings with multiple entry points.

SOLUTION: FWPS 2017 BOND PROPOSITION

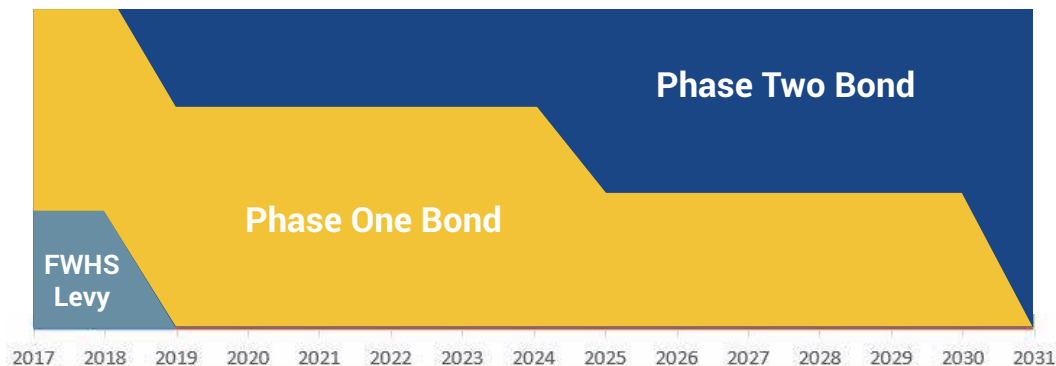
On November 7, 2017, voters in Federal Way Public Schools will have the opportunity to approve a \$450 million bond proposition that will address:

- aging, deteriorating facilities,
- overcrowding at our elementary schools, and
- enhanced safety and security district wide.

The November 2017 bond proposition expands, rebuilds or modernizes Thomas Jefferson High School, Totem Middle School, Illahee Middle School, Olympic View Elementary, Lake Grove Elementary, Mirror Lake Elementary, Star Lake Elementary, and Wildwood Elementary. Also included is Memorial Stadium, which serves all high schools, the elementary track program, and is a place where the community gathers for events.

A successful bond proposition will benefit all schools with School Construction Assistance Program (SCAP) funding to address major maintenance needs such as

roofs and boilers, provide security enhancements and relocate Mark Twain Elementary. Bonds generate SCAP funds from the state. SCAP monies will also allow for district-wide necessary upgrades.



HOW THE TAX COLLECTION REMAINS THE SAME WITH THE 2017 BOND

As the district pays off bond debt, this allows for bond sales to be managed in a way to keep tax collections the same (shown in navy blue above).

- In teal green, you will see FWHS levy expires, with 2018 being the last year of collection
- In yellow, you will see the payoff of the phase one bond. All current bond debt from the phase one bond will be paid off by 2030

HOW THE 2017 FWPS BOND WILL BENEFIT OUR SCHOLARS AND COMMUNITY

The 2017 Bond Proposition:

- Benefits all schools and is fiscally responsible
- Offers more capacity at our elementary schools and reduces overcrowding
- Supports modernized, technology-rich learning environments to prepare students for college and career.
- Expands early learning opportunities, specifically preschool
- Enhances and improves safety and security at all schools
- Offers another K-8 school in another area of the district
- Modernized schools: increases home values: Great Schools-Great Neighborhoods
- Increase local job opportunities in construction industry as part of school construction and modernization
- Positions the district to accomplish big, bold goals in strategic plan

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE 2017 FWPS BOND:

fwps.org/bond • bondinfo@fwps.org
253.945.2000

Remember to vote in the general election on **November 7, 2017.**

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& MORE**

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