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Portland Business Alliance Jobs Summit generates action plan *Leaders agree: Private sector job creation, economic development top priority*

Portland, Ore. – Today, the Portland Business Alliance released its Jobs Summit Action Plan, a follow-up to its Jobs Summit hosted last month, which aims to increase private sector jobs, wages and incomes. At the Alliance’s Jobs Summit, more than 140 public and private sector leaders gathered together and agreed on a new vision for the Portland-metro region: create a vibrant and prosperous regional economy that generates family-wage jobs and sufficient tax revenues to support critical public services.

Business and government leaders also came up with specific steps for achieving that vision. Those steps are outlined in the [Jobs Summit Action Plan](#).

“The Jobs Summit was a remarkable success,” said Roger Hinshaw, chair of the Portland Business Alliance board of directors and Market President for Bank of America in Oregon and Southwest Washington. “When we came up with this idea to bring together a group of 140 leaders to discuss these big issues, we really didn’t know what to expect, but it was clear that everyone gets it. We need more private-sector, family-wage jobs to create the kind of community we want, and there are specific things we can start doing today to achieve it.”

The summit was spurred by an economic study, conducted on behalf of the Alliance and its partner business groups by ECONorthwest, titled [A Check-up on the Portland Region’s Economic Health](#). The study revealed declining wages and incomes in the Portland-metro area and substantial job losses in Multnomah County and demonstrated how private sector job growth and improved wages and incomes could generate the necessary dollars to better fund schools and other public services.

In addition to developing the short-term and long-term action plan, the Alliance came up with several indicators to determine if real progress is made, and include:

- Positive private-sector job growth regionally, including Multnomah County with the goal of reversing private-sector job losses in Multnomah County, and adding 12,500 net new private sector jobs per year in the region overall;
- Portland-metro average wages improve with the goal of regional average wages exceeding the national average by 2016; and
- Portland-metro per capita income improves with the goal of Regional per capita income exceeding the national average by 2020.

“I am eager for our action items to take motion and thankful for the great partners we have to help make our vision a reality,” Hinshaw said.

[View the Jobs Summit Action Plan >>](#)

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About the Alliance

The Portland Business Alliance is Greater Portland’s Chamber of Commerce, with nearly 1,400 businesses in the region. The Portland Business Alliance’s mission is to promote and foster an environment in the Portland region that attracts, supports and retains private sector jobs, spurs economic vitality and enables quality educational opportunities for the region’s residents. Visit www.portlandalliance.com for more information.