



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEWS RELEASE

City of Seattle

Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor

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Mayor Announces Awards to Help 22 Neighborhood Business Districts

City investments in Seattle neighborhoods help small businesses

SEATTLE – Today Mayor Greg Nickels presented funding awards totaling \$128,384 to 22 Neighborhood Business District Associations throughout Seattle to continue the city’s investments in building healthy communities and supporting our local economy.

“Our business districts are the economic engines that provide jobs and create the unique character in our neighborhoods across Seattle,” said Nickels, who presented the awards at a community event in Columbia City. “This is one more way the city continues to invest in our local business districts, joining neighborhood chambers and merchants associations to support Seattle’s small businesses.”

The Office of Economic Development (OED) received proposals totaling more than three times the amount of money available.

“The Office of Economic Development is a proud partner of our local neighborhood business districts citywide,” said Steve Johnson, acting director of the Office of Economic Development. “This money allows 22 of our business districts to strengthen their local business communities, from helping businesses save costs and decrease their carbon footprint, to supporting marketing efforts that bring more shoppers to the districts.”

Some examples of the projects funded include creation of new business organizations, tourism initiatives, business district promotion (branding, marketing campaigns, farmers market start-up), and physical improvement and enhancement projects (leaf clean up, curb bulb landscaping and banners).

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The following organizations are recipients of the 2009 Neighborhood Business District Awards:

• African Business Association	\$5,000
• Business Owners of Madrona	\$3,500
• Capitol Hill Housing	\$5,000
• Chinatown International District BIA	\$7,000
• Columbia City Business Association	\$11,880
• Georgetown Merchants Association	\$5,000
• Greater Queen Anne Chamber of Commerce	\$6,000
• Greater Seattle Business Association	\$15,000
• Greater University Chamber of Commerce	\$2,000
• Greenwood Phinney Chamber of Commerce	\$5,000
• Lake City Chamber of Commerce	\$5,000
• Madison Valley Merchants Association	\$4,200
• Magnolia Chamber of Commerce	\$2,600
• Metropolitan Improvement District	\$4,144
• Picture Perfect Queen Anne	\$4,000
• Pioneer Square Community Association	\$7,500
• Rainier Beach Merchants Association	\$3,850
• Rainier Chamber of Commerce	\$3,710
• SODO Business Association	\$8,000
• South Lake Union Chamber of Commerce	\$10,000
• West Seattle Chamber of Commerce	\$5,000
• White Center Community Development Association	\$5,000

Total Amount of Awards: **\$128,384**

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