

## CONNECTING COMMERCE

How the Federal Way Chamber Fuels Small Business Growth

In the heart of South King County, the Greater Federal Way Chamber of Commerce stands as a vital engine for small business prosperity. As the region grows, so too does the importance of a robust economic network that supports the entrepreneurs, innovators, and employers shaping the local landscape. With a focus on collaboration, strategic data, and dynamic programming, the Chamber is building a foundation for long-term business vitality. At its core, the Chamber is a catalyst for economic development. Through its work in business attraction, retention, and expansion, the Chamber directly engages with the community's key stakeholders in education, government, and private industry. This tri-sector collaboration forms a resilient framework for regional success "Our energized body of work translates into a strategic vision to enhance economic opportunities throughout our regional business base," said Chamber CEO, Rebecca Martin, CCE. "This is how we take the Federal Way to business success."

Networking is central to that strategy as connections support business growth. From traditional ribbon cuttings and business after-hours to monthly meetings, workshops, and roundtables, business leaders have direct access to decision-makers and new markets.





"Chamber programs and events are more than social," said Board member Shawn Harju, Chrysalis Solutions. "They serve as incubators for ideas, partnerships, and practical tools that empower businesses to grow."

As a thought leader on critical business issues, Chamber businesses have tackled healthcare, nonprofit leadership, and women's advancement, reflecting the Chamber's commitment to elevating all facets of the business ecosystem.

Data also plays a pivotal role in the Chamber's strategy. By using economic indicators and market trends, the Chamber equips its members with the insights necessary for informed decisionmaking and strategic planning. "Our data-centric approach ensures that Chamber initiatives are forward-looking, aligning with sustainability goals and economic resilience," said Board member Dan Eisenman, Equalus

In every initiative, the Chamber embodies its mission: to connect business for success. With its holistic approach to strategic economic development, destination management, and unwavering support for local enterprise, the Greater Federal Way Chamber is not only shaping today's business climate... it's building tomorrow's.

Building a talent pipeline for business segments identified for growth is a focus of the Chamber and educational partners like Highline College and the Federal Way Public School District. "Connecting business to career pathways ensures that the regional economy has access to skilled workers while providing residents with pathways to quality employment opportunities," said Board member Dr. John Mosby, President, Highline College.

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