

City of Madras

Goal 9 - Economic Development

Vision

Madras, Oregon is a healthy community whose economic development goal is to grow the number of jobs in Madras, with an emphasis on family-wage job growth, and improve local prosperity by providing opportunities for economic development in a business-friendly environment. Madras supports the growth and expansion of existing businesses, especially businesses that provide jobs in core economic sectors, which include agricultural products manufacturing, and agricultural support services, and wood product manufacturing.

Goals

1. Madras supports economic expansion in vital economic sectors that include:
 - Health Care and Community Services (Regional)
 - Aviation and Aerospace Development Services (National)
 - Warehousing and Distribution Facilities (Regional)
 - Value Added Products and Services for Agricultural and Mining Industries (National)
2. Madras will facilitate economic growth and development by providing basic transportation infrastructure, including roads, rail access, and aviation facilities, and will take the necessary steps to ensure the availability of necessary water and sanitary sewer service to employment land.
3. Madras is committed to balancing economic development goals with long-term preservation of the environment, including the surface and ground water resources, air quality, and farmland that sustains the local economy.

Policies

Madras will work to achieve these economic development goals through the following policy and regulatory measures:

1. Provide an adequate supply of employment land in a variety of site sizes and locations, to meet employment growth forecasts.
2. Provide and maintain the public infrastructure necessary to support businesses and their employees, such as roads, airport facilities, drinking water supply, and sanitary sewers.
3. Encourage redevelopment of underutilized commercial areas in Madras through fiscal policy and permitting incentives.
4. Support the growth of existing businesses and attract new businesses through regional business incentive programs.

5. Support and actively participate in regional economic development and recruitment efforts through Economic Development Central Oregon (EDCO).
6. Support intermodal rail access through the development of a rail siding or intermodal reload facility accessible to employers in Jefferson County.
7. Family-wage jobs?
8. Job Training and Continuing education?
9. Other?

Implementation

Madras will take steps to achieve these economic development objectives through the following policy and regulatory measures:

1. Invest in downtown and commercial corridor public improvements that enhance development using urban renewal, ODOT highway enhancement, and local improvement financing tools.
2. Take steps to reduce development fees and streamline development review with a “fast track” permitting and approval process in targeted reinvestment areas. (Question – This only stays if it makes sense. Is there an area in the City where there is a redevelopment focus that should be mentioned here?)
3. Pursue Oregon Enterprise Zone designations and other tax incentive programs for industrial development sites. (Note – Some of these programs are listed on EDCO’s web site.)
4. Work with EDCO and local property owners to identify and designate a Regional Industrial Development Site in or near Madras.
5. Conduct a rail access economic feasibility study that examines ways to improve intermodal freight accessibility in Madras.
6. Investigate regulatory and policy approaches to preserve the amount of irrigated agricultural land that may be impacted by urban development.