



## Portland, Oregon



## WHO ARE WE?

THE PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION HELPS CREATE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PORTLAND

Established in 1958 as the city government's economic development and urban renewal agency, over \$1.3 Billion has been directed to the Portland Development Commission for investment

### How urban renewal works

Urban renewal is a way governments can set aside property tax money to reinvest in an area that is run-down, unsafe or economically stagnant.

### 1. Pick a spot

City leaders approve a map of the area they want included in an urban renewal district.

### 2. Cap taxes

The city caps the amount of property taxes flowing from the district into the general fund – for example \$100 million a year.





The city borrows money to pay for new projects and subsidize development in the district. Builders find the area attractive for investment.



### 4. Watch it grow

New development in the district increases property values. Over time, property taxes rise, say to \$120 million a year.



#### 5. Collect taxes

The city uses the \$20 million difference between the tax cap and new tax income to pay off the loans. Once loans are paid, property in the district goes back on the city's general fund tax rolls to pay for basic services. Public investment in the area eventually means more tax money for the city.



STEVE COWDEN/THE OREGONIAN



11%

Increase in carbon emissions in U.S.

## PORTLAND 1970s

### Decrease in carbon emissions in Portland

# 400%

Increase in GDP in Portland, 1990-2012

## PORTLAND TODAY

## Government Leadership Through Policy & Risk Taking

Downtown Plan – livable, walkable 1972

Creation of Waterfront Park 1974



First US City w Climate Action Plan (Kyoto Protocol achieved in 2004) 1993





First City in US with modern streetcar 2001



Portland builds largest bridge in N America to exclude cars 2015

1973

First State with Urban Growth Boundary



#### 1971

First State with Bottle Deposit Bill, first state with Bicycle Bill (multimodal) 1986 MAX Light Rail system opens



1994

First City in US with a Green Infrastructure Policy



1996 Bicycle Master Plan

2001

First City in US with green building policy

#### 2015

Hassalo on Eighth EcoDistrict



### Culture Of Entrepreneurship

### ORE - USA PORTLAND MADE COLLECTIVE







### PROGRAM: STARTUP PDX CHALLENGE

- Free rent for one year
- Space identification and tenant improvements
- Technical assistance and access to mentors and advisors
- Free business services (legal, marketing, etc.)





## WEBUILD PORTLAND<sup>GREENCITIES</sup>





Photo: Steve Morgan

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