

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

In Re: An Ordinance Establishing)
Local Tax and Fee Relief for Qualified)
Enterprise Zone Investments)

No 87-1

ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, Columbia County and the city of Rainier jointly agreed to a package of tax relief and regulatory flexibility upon designation of the Rainier Enterprise Zone; and

WHEREAS, the Enterprise Zone was one of the ten (10) Enterprise Zones designated statewide, effective January 2, 1987; and

WHEREAS, a property tax declining percentage exemption for new construction is available to eligible firms within the zone upon application to the County Assessor; and

WHEREAS, personal and corporate tax credits are available upon application to the State of Oregon Economic Development Department for preliminary approval as a "qualified investment";

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. POLICY

Columbia County hereby finds and declares that the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the County are dependent upon the continued encouragement, development, growth and expansion of employment, business, industry and commerce within the County. Therefore, it is the purpose of this ordinance to stimulate employment, business and industrial growth by providing local assistance to qualified businesses and industries consistent with the State of Oregon Designation of the Rainier Enterprise Zone.

SECTION 2. QUALIFIED INVESTMENT

To qualify for local tax and regulatory relief, new development and expansions within the County must have obtained certification from the County Assessor of Columbia County, in accordance with ORS 284.210 to 284.250.

SECTION 3. ELIGIBLE ENTERPRISES

Non-retail businesses with an approved, qualified investment are eligible for tax and regulatory assistance under this ordinance if they are:

- (1) New businesses; or
- (2) Existing businesses that increase the average number of full-time employees within the zone by at least ten (10) percent over that existed during the preceding year.

SECTION 4. LOCAL BENEFITS

Eligible enterprises with a qualified investment qualify for the following local tax and fee benefits:

- (1) All County permits associated with the qualified investments shall be reduced by fifty (50) percent of the permit fee to be charged at the time the permit issued.

SECTION 5. REGULATORY ASSISTANCE

All County departments are hereby directed to cooperate to insure that eligible enterprises with qualified investments receive the following consideration.

- (1) Processing of all permit applications for qualified investments ahead of all others.
- (2) Submission of any ordinance, with a direct economic impact on local businesses, to the Port of St. Helens and the Rainier Chamber of Commerce thirty (30) days prior to final adoption for review and comment unless an emergency is identified and formally declared.
- (3) Personal staff assistance for potential developers of qualified investments and cooperation with the staff of Rainier to facilitate the processing of any permits.

SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provisions and such holdings shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

SECTION 7. EMERGENCY CLAUSE

That this ordinance, being necessary for the immediate preservation of public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist and this ordinance takes effect on its adoption.

REGULARLY PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON THIS 21st DAY OF January, 1987.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

Michael J. Sykes
Chairman

Max W. Dillard
Commissioner

John R. Peterson
Commissioner

Roberta Stubbs
Recording Secretary

Read in Full: January 21, 1987

Read - Title Only: January 21, 1987

Vote: Commissioner Sykes Aye Nay

Commissioner Peterson Aye Nay

Commissioner Dillard Aye Nay