

Economic Development



Where does this topic fit within the new Comprehensive Plan?

Hillsboro's updated Comprehensive Plan is organized around seven core topic areas. These core areas cover broad, interconnected subjects that help define and guide the future growth and development of Hillsboro.



Economic Development is part of the **Building Economy and Infrastructure** core area.



More information is available at plan.hillsboro-oregon.gov/economy

Hillsboro is a particularly attractive place to live for its manufacturing infrastructure, technologically-skilled workforce, airport proximity, major highways and interstates, and business-friendly climate.

Background

The City of Hillsboro has an enviable economic base with a diverse range of firms providing high-quality employment opportunities for local residents, as well as the broader region and the state. The City is one of the few areas in the State of Oregon that competes effectively for nationally- and internationally-competitive firms. This has bolstered the local and regional economy through the attraction of employers who produce internationally-traded goods and services.

The 2016 Economic Opportunities Analysis provides information about the factors that might affect economic development in Hillsboro between 2016 and 2036 and informs policy updates to the Comprehensive Plan.



Issues, Challenges, Trends, and Opportunities

The current issues, challenges, trends, and opportunities relating to economic development include:

- **Economic Trends** — With a robust local economy, many industries in Hillsboro have been outperforming national trends. However, the economy is still highly reliant on computer and electronics manufacturing. Supporting this manufacturing industry and pursuing opportunities to attract businesses that share the same or related products or services will be key to advancing the economic performance of the City.
- **Employment Growth** — Hillsboro is estimated to add approximately 40,000 new jobs over the next 20 years. While manufacturing will still provide the greatest overall number of jobs, the greatest job growth is expected to be in information (software, data processing, data centers), professional and technical services, and healthcare.
- **Employment Land Needs** — Maintaining an ongoing inventory of available and readily developable sites in a range of sizes, configurations, and characteristics is critical to supporting economic development. Although the City has a strong site inventory and a growing inventory of speculative industrial and commercial space, redevelopment and or intensification of uses will be required to meet long-term employment needs.

Recommended Updates and Policy Considerations

The Comprehensive Plan update is an opportunity to support Hillsboro’s ongoing economic development efforts, including the following recommendations:

- **Support investments that will realize the City’s development capacity in order to accommodate future employment needs.**
- **Continue to foster a high-quality business environment by maintaining educational institutions, workforce housing, business districts, and other urban amenities.**
- **Coordinate recruitment and retention efforts with local, regional, and statewide economic development agencies, business organizations, and major employers.**

Find Out More

For more information, including upcoming events and opportunities to get involved, please visit plan.hillsboro-oregon.gov.

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