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of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

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REGION 10 BULLETIN NO: 2012-12

Subject: EDA Seattle Region's 2012 Training Conference

Program Area: Training

Date: March 6, 2012

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) Seattle Regional Office will conduct its **"2012 Regional Training Conference, *Bringing Jobs Back through Innovation, Collaboration and Leadership*"**, at the Hilton Portland and Executive Tower in Portland, Oregon, April 3-5, 2012. Several hundred economic development practitioners from throughout the EDA Seattle region (Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington and the Pacific Islands) are expected to attend. We hope that you will join your peers in Oregon's beautiful city of Portland for this exciting conference – not only will you have numerous professional networking opportunities, you will also hear from various experts who will address a wide range of economic development topics.

The 2012 conference will bring together public, private and nonprofit sector leaders to explore cutting-edge strategies and economic development innovation that lead to job creation and retention through learning labs, mobile workshops, and peer-networking opportunities. Representatives from EDA-funded economic development districts, university centers, revolving loan funds, state and local officials, tribal planning programs and others are invited to attend this conference.

Confirmed speakers include:

- Secretary of Commerce John Bryson (*Invited*)
- Governor John Kitzhaber (*Invited*)
- Acting Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development Matt Erskine
- The Honorable Sam Adams, Mayor, City of Portland
- Mary Walshok, Ph.D., Associate Vice Chancellor of Public Programs, UC-SD (*Invited*)
- Chandra Brown, President, United Streetcar
- James Curleigh, CEO, Keen
- Sean Robbins, CEO, Greater Portland, Inc.
- Cylvia Hayes, CEO, 3E Strategies
- Scott Goddin, Director, International Trade Administration
- Robin Samuelson, President and CEO, Bristol Bay EDC

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Sessions topics will include exporting, cultivating entrepreneurs, creating local jobs vs outsourcing, accessing capital, CEDS, post disaster economic recovery, best practices in sustainable development, building a work force that meets the needs of potential employers, and various EDA-program specific workshops. Attendees will also have many opportunities for peer networking and to share and exchange information, ideas and solutions. And, two very special mobile workshops will bring attendees out of the hotel to the Science Research and Teaching Center on the Portland State University (PSU) campus, and to the Ports of Hood River and Cascade Locks to learn about the impact of various EDA investments, and to learn about the impact of the growing high tech sector in the Columbia Gorge area.

A preliminary conference agenda and registration form are included for your convenience.

The conference will be held at the Hilton Portland and Executive Tower located in the heart of Portland’s business and entertainment district. **A special government rate (\$109/night) is guaranteed for all conference attendees who register by March 20th.** To secure the special conference rate, contact the hotel directly by calling 503-226-1611. The hotel is located at 921 SW Sixth Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204. **Early Bird Conference Registration – \$225 Expires March 20!**

For questions about conference registration, contact Tawanna Harley at tharley@nado.org or 202-624-7841.

For questions about the hotel (other than to make your reservations – please contact the hotel directly to do that), contact Vicki Glass at vglass@nado.org or 202-624-8574.

For questions about conference content, contact Laurie Thompson at lthompson@nado.org or 202-624-5948.

For further information, contact Region 10’s Linda Gehrke at 206-220-4463 or email linda.gehrke@dot.gov.

Sincerely,



R.F. Krochalis
Regional Administrator

Encl: Agenda and Registration form

