



‘Cash for Job Creation’ Incentives Available in Washington County, MD

Additional incentives include fast track permitting, fee reductions and more

(Hagerstown, MD - December 11, 2009) For companies that are ready to relocate or expand, now could be an opportunity to jumpstart their business growth. The recently unveiled Job Attraction and Creation Program (JAC) focuses on creating long term jobs by attracting new businesses to the area, and encouraging existing companies to add positions locally.

JAC Details

- Minimum of \$1,500 cash incentive per job created
- Reduction of permit fees
- Fast Track Permitting
- Three-year payment program for construction excise tax

County Commissioners Take Action to Jumpstart Job Creation

The Washington County Board of County Commissioners voted to provide financial incentives that will be available on a first-come, first-served basis until the dedicated funding of \$500,000 is depleted or June 30, 2010. Additional funding may be considered for those businesses that will pay more than the minimum wage requirements of the program as well as help the County in pursuit of its economic goals.

The Hagerstown-Washington County Economic Development Commission (EDC), will be administering the JAC Program and will be considering applications beginning on Monday, December 14th. To apply, contact the Deputy Director of the EDC, Rob Ferree, CECD, at 240-313-2282 or rferree@hagerstowncdc.org.

Located within an hour's drive of Washington, DC and Baltimore, MD, Hagerstown-Washington County, MD is an affordable place to do business WITH a close proximity to major cities. To learn more about the advantages of a Hagerstown-Washington County location, please visit www.hagerstowncdc.org.

Details on Incentives

\$1,500 cash incentive per job created

- Businesses must create a minimum of 10 full-time, permanent new jobs before June 30, 2010
- Jobs created must pay at least 150% of the current federal minimum wage (\$10.88)
- Retail jobs created must pay at least 200% of the federal minimum wage (\$14.50)
- Jobs created must continue as full-time, permanent positions for a minimum of three years

Reduction of permit fees

- Washington County required permit fees on a qualifying business' new or expansion construction project will be reduced by:

- 75% for all non-retail projects
- 25% for retail projects
- Permit fees include building, electrical, HVAC and plumbing

Fast Track Permitting Program

- Projects creating a minimum of 10 full-time, permanent jobs will qualify for the County's Fast Track Construction Program
- For non-retail projects, the jobs must pay 150% of the federal minimum wage (\$10.88)
- For retail projects, the jobs must pay 200% of the federal minimum wage (\$14.50)

Three-year payment program for excise tax

- Non-retail businesses that require a new facility or an expansion to an existing facility may request a three-year payment program for the required excise tax
- The first payment will be due one year from the date of issuance of a building permit from Washington County Permits & Inspections Department
- Retail businesses must create a minimum of 10 full-time, permanent new positions paying at least 200% of the federal minimum wage (\$14.50) to qualify for this payment extension program

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