

TIGARD BUSINESS RESOURCE GUIDE



CITY OF
Tigard

We're excited you're here! You are part of a thriving business community of more than 3,500 firms employing more than 54,000 people from around the region.

This guide was created with you in mind. It contains information about the Tigard business community and supportive resources to help you on your journey as a business owner. If you have any questions, contact the City of Tigard's Economic Development team – we're here to help!



Community Profile

With a diverse economy of more than 3,500 businesses, strong schools and outstanding parks, Tigard is one of the most livable cities in Oregon. Since its incorporation in 1961, the city has grown to become a desirable and affordable community in the Portland metro area.

*Thank you for choosing Tigard
as a home for your business!*

Residents enjoy a range of public transportation options to nearby Portland, Beaverton and Hillsboro, access to more than 16 miles of paved trails and nearly 550 acres of parks and open spaces. Other amenities include shopping at Bridgeport Village and Washington Square Mall. The Cascade Mountains, Oregon's famed beaches and the Columbia Gorge are all accessible as day trips.

Tigard's walkable downtown offers unique shopping, eating and drinking establishments, transit connections and access to bike and pedestrian trails. With public art and multiple trail connections, this area is undergoing a transformation into a walkable destination for residents and visitors alike.



TIGARD BY THE NUMBERS

Population:

55,762

Median Age:

39

Median Household Income:

\$101,354

Median Value of
Owner-Occupied Housing Units:

\$465,400

Residents with a
Bachelor's Degree or Higher:

47%

Number of Businesses:

3,561

Number of Employees:

41,671

Permanent Tax Rate:

\$2.51

per \$1,000/Assessed Value



When do you need to contact City Hall?

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Planning staff are available to provide information about permits, land use applications and other department requirements, including information related to the following:

- ▶ Signs – Most signs require sign permits; please check with staff to see if you will need a permit.
- ▶ Building Permits – Generally needed to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, change the occupancy or intensity of use of a building or structure or electrical, gas, mechanical or plumbing system.
- ▶ Home Occupation Permits – Required if you are conducting business out of your home in Tigard.
- ▶ Façade Improvements – Changes to the exterior of your building. May require a permit.
- ▶ Modifications to your place of business – Examples include changes to landscaping or parking.

Call 503-718-2421 or email: tigardplanneronduty@tigard-or.gov for more information.

COMMERCIAL CRIMES UNIT

Uniquely funded through the City of Tigard's business license fees, the Tigard Police Commercial Crimes Unit (CCU) is nationally recognized for their expertise in investigating commercial and business crimes. CCU detectives dedicate their time focusing on crimes that affect the Tigard business community, including organized retail theft, embezzlement, burglary, robbery, and other types of crime. CCU can proactively help review crime prevention techniques and provide one-on-one consultations that can help improve the safety of your business.

Contact CCU@tigard-or.gov or visit www.tigard-or.gov/CCU for more information and free resources.



Tigard Taphouse

is the result of hard work and a shared vision from owners Allie Hary and Mike Miller (pictured with their daughter, Lilah), who transformed an old house on Burnham Street in Downtown Tigard into a thriving business that's now one of Tigard's main community gathering spots.

FOCUSING ON LOCAL BUSINESS

Artesanias Lupita MX

offers a variety of culturally significant items. Maria Guadalupe Piñon Trujillo initially started her business to supplement her household income, but as it grew, so did her inventory. Recognizing a need for a Latino-focused store in Tigard, she expanded to cater to the cultural community she identifies with. Committed to promoting cultural significance, Maria aims to educate people about the handmade products from Mexico while fostering generational entrepreneurship, involving her daughters in the business.





Senet Game Bar

Senet Game Bar combines cocktails and board games in downtown Tigard. Owner Derrick Wright's (pictured) family history played a big part in his decision to open in Tigard — his shop is in the old Tigard Cycle & Ski Shop where he purchased his first bike, his grandfather owned an appliance repair store across from his location, and his grandmother went to Tigard High School when it was on Main Street.

FOCUSING ON LOCAL BUSINESS

GoodCake Bakery

The result of more than 30 years of combined baking experience by co-owners Jay Burton and Edgar Contreras (pictured), GoodCake Bakery serves traditional Mexican bread and pastries alongside a menu of unique dessert creations. They are also training the next generation of bakers by hiring local high school students as interns.



Business Resources

The following organizations provide a variety of advising and support services to help your business prosper:

Created in 2013 to cultivate potential and economic resources of the community, the **City of Tigard's Economic Development Program**



creates and manages programs to help attract, encourage and expand business in Tigard. This program can connect you with resources to start, build, manage and grow your business.

- » **LOCATION:** Permit Center | 13125 SW Hall Blvd., Tigard
- » **CONTACT:** Tina Escalera, Economic Development Specialist
503-718-2560 | tinae@tigard-or.gov
www.tigard-or.gov/ecdev

The **Tigard Chamber of Commerce** is made up of over 300 member businesses (around 10% of Tigard's professional community). Members leverage each others' reach and expand connections, share knowledge and provide support to help your business soar.



- » **LOCATION:** 12345 SW Main St., Tigard
- » **CONTACT:** 503-639-1656 | tigardchamber.org

The **Oregon Small Business Development Center** assists small businesses with advising, classes and access to the resources they need to be successful. From free advising to capital access, SBDC has the resources to help.



- » **LOCATION:** Portland Community College (various locations)
- » **CONTACT:** 971-722-5080 | americassbdc.org

Livelihood NW Provides free and low-cost business consulting through 1:1 advising, workshops, long-term business support, bookkeeping training, and resources to underserved businesses ranging from start up to advanced growth.



- » **LOCATION:** Online
- » **CONTACT:** 503-990-8255 | livelihoodnw.org

A nonprofit Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) dedicated to serving underbanked entrepreneurs. **Business Impact NW** provides loan readiness coaching, classes, and access to capital to small businesses, with an emphasis on working with traditionally underserved populations – entrepreneurial low/moderate income earners, women, BIPOC, veterans, immigrants, or members of the LGBTQ+ community.



- » **LOCATION:** By Appointment only 4145 SW Watson Ave. Suite 350, Beaverton, OR 97005
- » **CONTACT:** 503-342-1032 | info@businessimpactnw.org

MESO PDX seeks to build stable and successful businesses in the community, focusing on strategic planning and collaboration with each business owner. Services offered include business strategies and implementation, capacity building, branding/websites, and marketing, among others.



- » **LOCATION:** 4008 NE MLK Jr Blvd., Portland
- » **CONTACT:** 503-841-3351 | meso@mesopdx.org

SCORE is run by mentors who have in depth, practical experience running and managing businesses. These mentors are ready to help you personally, by counseling you at no cost. Portland SCORE also provides high quality, modestly priced workshops on topics of importance to small business owners.



- » **LOCATION:** 620 SW Main St. Portland
- » **CONTACT:** 503-326-5211 | scorepdx@scorevolunteer.org



Curiosities Vintage Mall

With 90+ vendors, Curiosities Vintage Mall features an ever-changing variety of merchandise that is never static or dusty. Curiosities is the brainchild of Travis Diskin (pictured), who saw an opportunity to take the antique mall concept in a modern direction. They offer one of the broadest varieties of vintage merchandise in the region.

FOCUSING ON LOCAL BUSINESS

The Aura

The Aura is dedicated to providing an inclusive experience for all. Owner Mike Pham (pictured), is committed to fostering a space that celebrates individuality and diversity, while promoting a culture of respect, acceptance, and enjoyment. The Aura's mission is to create unforgettable moments where diverse communities unite, dance, and thrive in a vibrant and safe environment. The kitchen provides a hearty menu all made from scratch and offers signature cocktails.



Tigard Business Resources

Advance Tigard

This program provides scholarships to cover some of the cost of career education, skill development, and training for Tigard residents (no matter where they work) and employees of Tigard-based businesses (no matter where they live).



Business License Fee Waiver

Owners of new businesses in Tigard who complete one of the business-focused training programs with one of our business advising partners, are eligible for a one-time, one-year City of Tigard business license fee waiver for their first year of operation in the City of Tigard.

Tigard Impact Fund

The City of Tigard has partnered with Business Impact NW to offer business loans exclusively for existing Tigard businesses to help them grow. Business loans range from \$5,000 to \$100,000 for businesses that have been in operation for at least one year.

Business Support Scholarship

The City of Tigard's Business Support Scholarship offers business owners and entrepreneurs a reimbursement of up to 50 percent of the cost of business advising services, training, and course work with one of our business advising partners. (Up to \$500 per program/course).

Enterprise Zone/Existing

The Enterprise Zone offers qualified businesses that are located within a defined boundary, a three-to-five-year tax exemption on new investment (equipment, buildings, and facilities) when the firm also invests in new employees by increasing their workforce by 10 percent.

The Enterprise Zone tax exemption on new equipment is especially useful for manufacturers, headquarters locations, exporters and traded-sector firms that are making capital investments and increasing their workforce.

Webinar Series

The City of Tigard's economic development team hosts a series of business support webinars focused on topics of interest to entrepreneurs and business owners. These webinars feature experts from organizations like the Small Business Development Center, Micro Enterprise Services of Oregon, Business Impact NW, and Livelihood NW. Topics are selected annually based on input from local business owners and range from getting loan ready to marketing advice. In an easy-to-access online format these sessions are convenient and helpful to entrepreneurs thinking about business and early-phase business owners.



TIF Grants

The City Center Building Improvement Program

This program provides matching grants for existing businesses in the City Center TIF District to make improvements to the exterior of their business (up to \$25,000). New catalyst businesses moving into vacant spaces in Downtown are eligible for funding to make interior upgrades (up to a maximum of a \$75,000 for eating and drinking establishments, up to \$25,000 for all other businesses).

The Triangle Business Opportunity Fund

This fund supports entrepreneurs by providing matching grants for construction costs associated with building renovations. Grants provide a 50% funding match (up to a maximum of \$50,000 for new eating and drinking establishments, and up to \$25,000 for all other businesses) to help fund the cost of interior or exterior renovations for businesses moving into vacant ground floor commercial spaces in the Tigard Triangle.

Los Empresarios De Tigard

The program strengthens Tigard’s small business community by connecting Spanish speaking entrepreneurs to the services and support they need to launch and grow successful businesses. Working with organizations who specialize in business support services, this program leverages the power of partnership to support business growth and resiliency.



Launch Pod Incubator Programs

Tigard’s Launch Pod business accelerator uses two city-owned food carts to help new entrepreneurs launch their businesses in Tigard. Business coaching, access to customers at Universal Plaza and reduced rent help remove barriers for first-time entrepreneurs.



Opportunity Cafe

Opportunity Café is a business incubator providing an entrepreneur critical ingredients like space and advising to start their business. The 400 square foot micro-café located in the Tigard Library (13500 SW Hall) is a key asset in an economic mobility program reducing start-up costs for first-time entrepreneurs. It also gives Library patrons their most requested improvement, a café!

Visit Tigard's Economic Development

Our website has more resources to help you start and grow your business.

tigard-or.gov/ecdev

Still have questions?

Contact Tina Escalera

Economic Development Specialist

tinae@tigard-or.gov

503-718-2560



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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

13125 SW Hall Blvd., Tigard, Oregon 97223
503-718-2560 | www.tigard-or.gov/CD