

To:

Mayor Ted Wheeler Commissioner Gonzalez Commissioner Mapps Commissioner Rubio Commissioner Ryan Andrew Fitzpatrick

Subject: Recommendation to Amend City Code Section 7.02.875 Downtown Business Incentive Credit

The Central Eastside Industrial Council (CEIC) is aware that a recommendation will be presented to City Council on February 28 to amend City Code Section 7.02.875 concerning the expansion of the Downtown Business Incentive Credit Program into Central Eastside Industrial District. We value your attention to this program, which has already shown positive impacts on Portland's Central City.

As the Central Eastside's business association, the CEIC represents the interests of our members. Encompassing 22% of Central City's total acreage, our district is home to 1,200 businesses and 22,000 employees spanning diverse industries. Our advocacy for the program's expansion aligns with our mission of fostering a vibrant, prosperous, safe, and inclusive district.

Expansion to the Central Eastside Industrial District signifies an inclusive stride towards our collective objectives: supporting Central City's recovery through business expansion, reducing tax burdens, improving financial viability, and enhancing competitiveness for our eligible district businesses.

We appreciate your consideration of this matter and urge you to vote in support of the expansion to further strengthen our shared economic goals and revitalization endeavors in the Central City.

Sincerely,

Carolyne Holcomb Executive Director <u>Central Eastside Industrial Council</u> and <u>Central Eastside Together</u>