

City of Poulsbo

Office of Mayor Rebecca Erickson



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 1, 2015

City of Poulsbo
Mayor's Office
200 NE Moe Street
Poulsbo, WA 98370
(360) 394-9880

Poulsbo focuses on intentional economic development efforts

Poulsbo –Mayor Becky Erickson announces the creation of the City of Poulsbo Planning and Economic Development department, effective immediately.

"It is my and the City Council's firm intention to be pro-active advocates of Poulsbo's economic development, to support and facilitate business retention, expansion and recruitment," said Mayor Erickson. "To that end, I have created new functions within the City's Planning Department, and have renamed the department to add the economic development component to it. "

"Additionally, the City Council has approved a 10-month contract with Jan Harrison of JHarrison Solutions to focus on business retention and expansion. Jan is well known in the Poulsbo business community, recently serving as the Chamber of Commerce's executive director. She brings established relationships and enthusiasm to this new position. I am eager to see the results that the expanded city department and Jan's efforts will bring to Poulsbo's economic diversity and health," Erickson continued.

The enhanced efforts compliment the City Council's existing Economic Development Committee. Efforts identified for 2015 include Harrison reaching out to existing businesses, identifying potential new businesses, coordinating with regional economic development efforts, and recommending strategies to the Mayor and City Council; the new Planning and Economic Development department will focus on data collection, website development and creation of the Poulsbo Prospectus, an informational package describing the major features, strengths, attractions and services of Poulsbo.

"Poulsbo has grown into a vibrant and diverse college-town with the presence of Olympic College and Western Washington University. I am thrilled to build upon their presence, and see what exciting synergies and partnerships we can develop in Poulsbo," Erickson concluded.

The Poulsbo Planning and Economic Development Department can be reached at (360) 394-9748 or at plan&econ@cityofpoulsbo.com. Jan Harrison can be reached at (360) 340-2195 or at janharrison@iglide.com.