PSA

Date:	May 13, 2020
To:	All Media
From:	Stephanie Krell, PIO Unified Command
Subject:	**Reopening Resources for Businesses**

Wasco County has applied to Oregon Health Authority (OHA) for consideration to enter Phase 1 of reopening. The application is under consideration by OHA, with the first possible date for reopening of local businesses on Friday, May 15th if the County is approved to proceed.

However, businesses will be required to operate under guidelines that require increased sanitation practices, following physical distancing, and continuing to protect the health of employees and the public. Up-to-date information on guidelines and review status of the County's application for entering Phase 1 can be found here: https://govstatus.egov.com/or-covid-19#.

MCEDD also has a page devoted to COVID-19 resources for small businesses at https://www.mcedd.org/covid-19-resources/.

To support businesses as they develop strategies for reopening, the region's Economic Resilience Team, co-convened by Mid-Columbia Economic Development District and Regional Solutions staff from the Office of Governor Kate Brown, is hosting a free, virtual Business Adaptation Training from 1 to 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 14. Partners for the summit include staff from local Chambers of Commerce, Ports, Business Oregon, the Small Business Development Center, East Cascades Workforce Investment Board, and more.

These online sessions will explain the reopening framework and provide sector expertise for restaurants, retail stores, child care providers, personal services businesses, outdoor

recreation outfits and providers of non-critical medical care. Register at
https://clients.bizcenter.org/workshop.aspx?ekey=140400009.

If you have questions specific to your business model and how to operate under the guidance, the Small Business Development Center at CGCC can help you think through the impacts as your business adapts. Contact them at https://bizcenter.org/centers/columbia-gorge-sbdc/ or 541-506-6121. They can help answer your questions, or support you in navigating to the best resources.

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