

If you're a small business owner or entrepreneur looking for a place to open shop, look no further than Gresham.

We want you here.

And to make it as easy as possible for you to get started or expand, we're offering a holiday from typical City fees to those who qualify.

It's our way of welcoming newcomers to the city, supporting established local businesses, boosting our local economy and filling up storefronts that have plenty of space to fulfill your business dreams.

### Small Business Help From the City

Act now to take advantage of the:

#### Garage-to-Storefront Incentive

Offering a temporary "fee holiday" to qualifying businesses that fill vacant commercial space within the Downtown, Civic Neighborhood and Central Rockwood areas. The holiday, running until March 31, 2011, applies to:

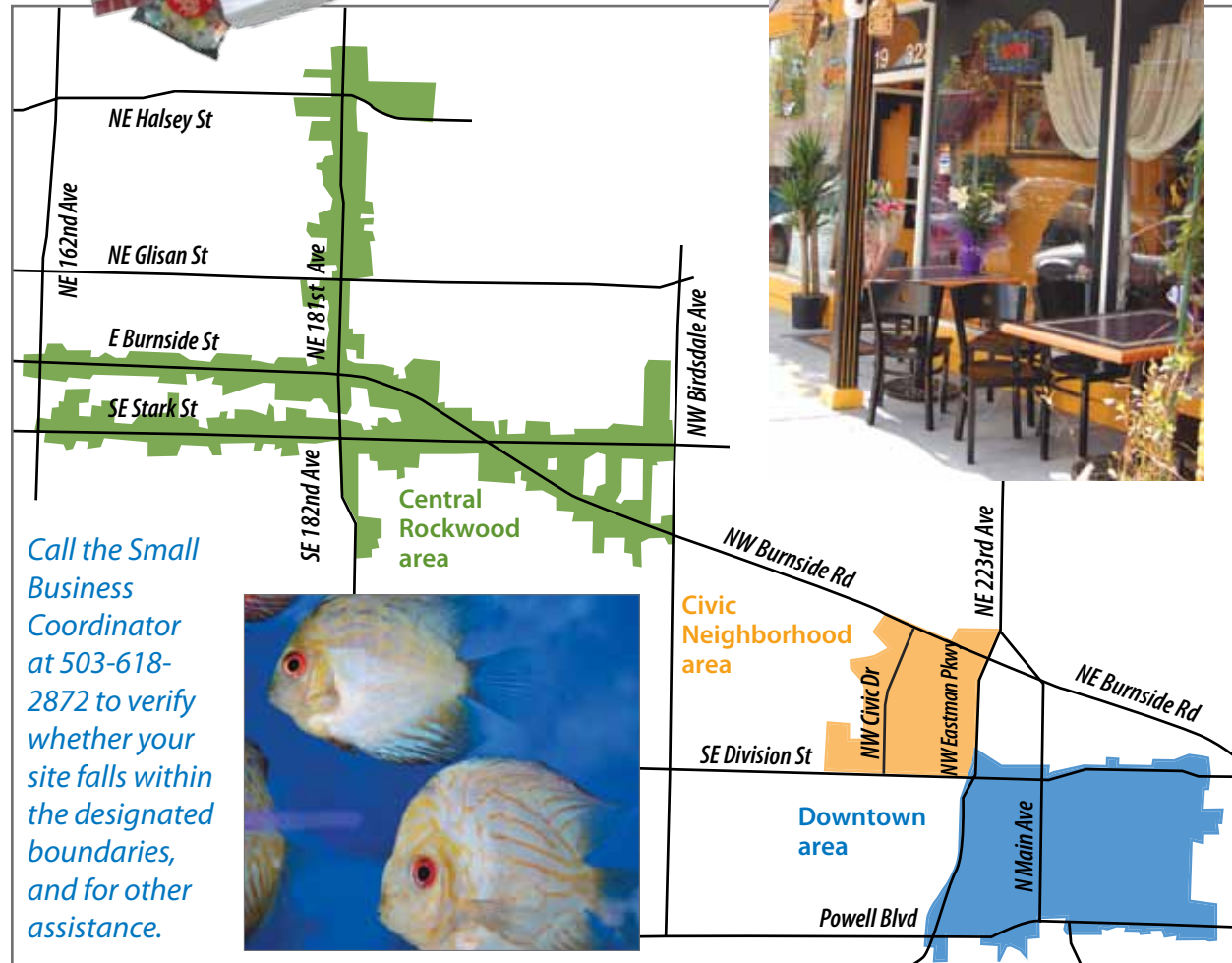
- Initial business license fees
- Development-related fees and charges
- System development charges

#### Business License Incentive

Encouraging entrepreneurs to launch new small-business ventures throughout Gresham by waiving fees for first-year business licenses through March 31, 2011.

Both incentives are retroactive to Feb. 17, 2010 for qualifying businesses.

Get an overview here, or for more information contact the Small Business Coordinator at 503-618-2872 or [SmallBusiness@GreshamOregon.gov](mailto:SmallBusiness@GreshamOregon.gov)



Call the Small Business Coordinator at 503-618-2872 to verify whether your site falls within the designated boundaries, and for other assistance.



### Background

The Gresham City Council approved these small-business incentives in April 2010. More than half of American workers work for small businesses, according to the Small Business Administration. Small businesses created 65 percent of net new private-sector jobs between 1993 and 2008.

# SMALL BUSINESS



# INCENTIVES



CITY OF GRESHAM



## GARAGE-TO-STOREFRONT INCENTIVE

*You want a place to start or expand your business.*

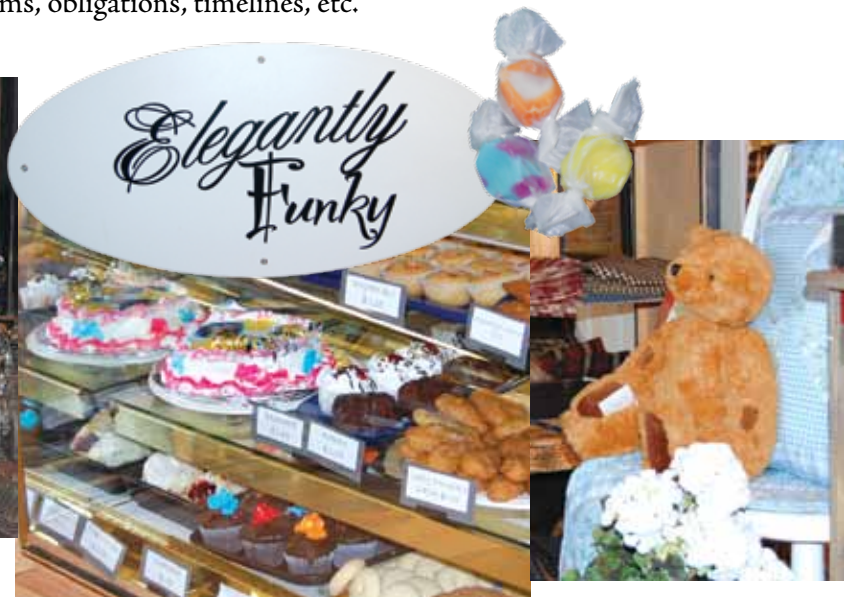
*Gresham's key commercial districts – Downtown, Civic Neighborhood and Central Rockwood – have vacant spaces calling out for new tenants.*

*It's opportunity – with your address on it.*

And between now and March 31, 2011, the City wants to help you seize opportunities in those areas by offering qualifying businesses a holiday from City startup fees and charges.

The fee holiday applies to:

- ✦ Initial business license fees
- ✦ Development-related fees
- ✦ System development charges (SDCs)



### Businesses that qualify must:

- ❑ Operate in designated commercial areas of Downtown, Civic Neighborhood or Central Rockwood. (See Map)
- ❑ Receive a permanent Certificate of Occupancy for a Commercial Tenant Improvement between Feb. 17, 2010, and March 31, 2011.
- ❑ Be:
  1. New to the city, or
  2. Already established within a designated area and expanding into vacant, adjacent commercial space; opening a new satellite location within a designated area; or relocating within or to a designated area and increasing square footage by at least 10 percent.
- ❑ Occupy no more than 5,000 square feet, including any expansion.
- ❑ Sign an agreement with the City covering terms, obligations, timelines, etc.

### Program does not cover:

- ✦ Corporate or franchise stores with more than three existing locations, unless independently-owned primarily by someone (or a legal entity) residing in Gresham.
- ✦ Government offices or agencies.
- ✦ Businesses that:
  1. Convert occupied or vacant residential space to commercial.
  2. Must obtain a Type II or Type III Community Service Permit. (example: childcare facilities)
  3. Exclude minors at all hours.
  4. Expand by new construction.
  5. Fail to begin construction within 30 days of receiving a Commercial Tenant Improvement permit, or fail to obtain a permanent Certificate of Occupancy within 180 days and before March 31, 2011.

## BUSINESS LICENSE INCENTIVE

*All the little — and not so little — costs that come with opening a new business keep some entrepreneurs from ever opening their doors.*

To provide encouragement in a tough market, Gresham has eliminated one such barrier — the initial business license fee.

Between Feb. 17, 2010 and March 31, 2011, the City will waive the fee for any new small business that opens in Gresham, provided the business:

- ❑ Moves into already-built, but vacant, commercial space anywhere in the city.
- ❑ Occupies no more than 5,000 square feet.
- ❑ Is not a corporate or franchise store with more than three existing locations. The exception: Independently owned franchises owned primarily by someone (or a legal entity) residing in Gresham.