



Annual 'Excellence on Main' Awards:

Each year the Washington State Main Street Program (WSMSP) honors communities who have demonstrated an outstanding achievement in one or more of the following categories: Public Partnership, Design or Rehabilitation, Economic Restructuring, Business Success, Promotion, or Special Projects. The awards are announced in a special ceremony each year at RevitalizeWA, the annual Main Street & Preservation Conference.

Annual Workshops:

As financial resources allow, the Washington Main Street Program will sponsor 1/2 day workshops at various locations throughout the state. Topics may include: Board Development; Mission Development/Visioning; Strategic Planning; Business Recruitment and Retention; Revitalizing Your Downtown Image/Brand; Fundraising, Creating & Expanding Promotional Eve; Insurance Issues, etc. A small fee will be charged to attend, with discounts given to communities affiliated with the Washington State Main Street Program.

Main Street Tax Credit Incentive Program:

The program provides a 75% Business & Occupation (B&O) or Public Utility tax (PUT) credit for private contributions given to program participants. Communities with a non-profit dedicated solely to downtown revitalization and following the Main Street 4-Point Approach® are eligible to apply.

Managers' Meetings:

Quarterly meetings of the Washington State Main Street Communities with the Washington State Main Street Staff that include training, speakers, updates from the State program and a managers' roundtable for networking and sharing of ideas.

Mentor Community Visit:

At the request of the Affiliate or Main Street Tax Credit Incentive Participant Community, the Main Street Coordinator will arrange a half-day on site visit with the Executive Director of a Nationally Certified Main Street Community (Mentor). The Mentor will either host or travel to the requesting community.

National Accreditation Assessment:

Every year the state coordinator will meet with the executive director and board of each certified community to get a sense of how the Main Street Program is working in that community. The program will be evaluated according to 10 performance standards including: fully utilizing the Main Street Four-Point Approach® and Eight Guiding Principles; continuing to evolve organizationally to meet new challenges. The coordinator will review work plans, budgets and progress reports with the director and board members, provide feedback and report on observations and suggestions.

Needs Assessment:

The Washington State Program Coordinator will visit the community to meet with members of the downtown organization and conduct a preliminary assessment of the community's' priority issues and needs. After the initial assessment, the coordinator will report on findings, including suggestions on how to best implement the Main Street 4-Point Approach®. The community will be matched with one or several members of the Mentor Program who can provide guidance and suggestions based on experience.

New Manager Orientation:

For new managers, the Washington State Main Street Program Coordinator will provide an overview of the Main Street Program, Washington State program requirements, and provide technical assistance and advice.

Organizational Assistance:

Based on need and request of the Main Street Communities, staff of the Washington State Main Street Program will visit the community and offer assistance in areas such as mission visioning, board development, staff hiring, strategic planning, work plan development, and volunteer recruitment.

Resource Team Visit:

(For new Main Street level communities only.) The Resource Team identifies a commercial district's issues and opportunities and recommends short-term and long-term strategies for the revitalization of the downtown commercial district. The team conducts an analysis of the district's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats, and formulates project and operational recommendations that will guide the revitalization program's activities for three to five years.

RevitalizeWA Main Street & Preservation Conference:

The conference is a two and a half day event held in a different location each year that brings together national, state and local experts on downtown revitalization, historic preservation, architecture and economic development. The conference is a combined effort of the Washington State Main Street Program and the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation.

Staff Hiring Assistance:

The State Coordinator will provide assistance to Main Street Communities that are hiring staff by providing job descriptions, reviewing resumes and participating in the interview and selection process.

Main Street Tax Credit Incentive Program Community Annual On-Site Review Visit:

The Main Street Coordinator will visit the community, meet with the organization, find out how revitalization efforts have been progressing and learn how the incentive program has been benefiting the community.

Main Street Tax Credit Incentive Program Community Meeting:

A half day meeting will be held for all the Tax Credit communities to network, share ideas for increasing donations, and get updates on the program. The Washington State Main Street Coordinator, as well as members of the Mentor Program will be present. The Tax Credit Community Meeting may be held in conjunction with a Main Street Manager's Meeting.