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EDC Director Report February 2025

February

- **Loans** – The EDC worked on five potential loans. To date, one has been funded, one was an extension of an existing loan, one is still in progress, and two were submitted to the USDA for National Scenic Area funding but were rejected.
- **CFM** – CFM is continuing to work with Federal and State legislators on SRS funding. It is assisting local agencies with Direct Appropriation applications and is exploring ways to facilitate the release of USDA funds directly to the Washington Investment Funds for local economic development.
- **Conservation Fund** – The EDC has signed a contract with the Conservation Fund to conduct a market and feasibility study for a trail to Red Bluff.
- **Stakeholder Meetings** – The EDC continues to host Stakeholder Breakfasts on the first Monday of each month. The first of six Skamania County Visioning Group meetings was held on February 12th, with the next scheduled for April 9th.
- **WEDA/ADO** – The EDC is collaborating with the Washington Economic Development Association on securing ADO funding for the 2025-2027 biennium budget.
- **Tourism Grant** – The EDC has applied for a Washington State Tourism grant to study visitor demographics and spending patterns in the county.