



Historic Downtown Camas is known for its beautiful tree-lined streets, unique boutiques, award-winning dining, and authentic small town charm.

It is the heart of Camas and the home to businesses, services, and events that create a strong, sustainable community.

Your support of Downtown Camas
is greatly appreciated.



www.downtowncamas.com

MISSION of the DCA

The mission of the Downtown Camas Association is to develop and promote historic Downtown Camas by creating a vibrant social, cultural and economic center of the community while emphasizing preservation of our city's historic features.

We accomplish this by forming effective partnerships, strengthening the business mix, planning aesthetic improvements, hosting special events, and preserving and promoting the charming character & heritage of the town.

The DCA is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

The DCA fosters prosperity, culture, beauty and community in the heart of Camas, its downtown core.

HISTORY

Downtown Camas started as a mill town in 1883 and has enjoyed a recent renaissance bringing history and modern day amenities together. This has happened through the united efforts of many. A City committee called the Downtown Vision Coalition (DVC) was founded in 2001 which created a vision for Downtown Camas and coordinated downtown events and improvement projects for the City. To increase funding and partnership options, the DVC board joined the Washington State Main Street Program and incorporated into a non-profit called the Downtown Camas Association. The DCA received its 501(c)3 status in December of 2009 and began functioning as an independent non-profit organization in 2010. While DCA functions have expanded, its ties remain strong with the City, including funding and in-kind support with events and downtown improvements and maintenance.

PARTNERSHIPS

Camas businesses are vital partners in expanding and supporting our downtown community. Businesses are key stakeholders in the long term development of Downtown Camas. Businesses can partner with and support the DCA in B&O Tax Incentive Program donations (see pages below), sponsorships, donations (financial and in-kind), membership, and event and committee participation.

The DCA looks forward to partnering with you in promoting Downtown Camas as stewards of the community. Thank you for your consideration and support.

Community in Action



The Downtown Camas Association works with Camas citizens, the City, and local businesses throughout the year to clean and beautify streets, do plantings, improve the appearance of buildings and trees with lighting, and to plan Camas events such as First Fridays, the Camas Plant & Garden Fair, the Camas Car Show, the Vintage & Art Faire, Girls' Night Out, Boo Bash Trick or Treat, and the Camas Holiday Home Tour.

The Downtown Camas Association also brings investment dollars downtown through sponsorships and partnerships for downtown improvements and increased promotion of all that happens in the heart of our town.

The Downtown Camas Association is committed to celebrating Camas' historic character and maintaining a sustainable and robust community through its efforts.



OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS



While the DCA enjoys designing events that bring people together downtown, and we promote and beautify our downtown core, we also do much more to strengthen our downtown community. The DCA serves as a consultant to the City of Camas and advocates on behalf of downtown businesses,



property owners, our district, and the community.

The DCA worked with the City to develop the Downtown Design Manual, which guides new development in Downtown Camas including façade recommendations, parking and sidewalk regulations, and the institution of a 1% public art funding requirements on building renovations.

The DCA has had critical influence in downtown zoning discussions and has affected progressive parking resolutions and important highway signage.



The Downtown Camas Association has a proven record of excellence in representing stakeholders in Downtown Camas.

We are continually working on efforts to preserve and enhance the downtown core as a desirable community gathering place and destination for tourists.

What Merchants Have to Say About the DCA...



"The DCA provides networking opportunities for Downtown businesses to work together and help each other succeed. They were instrumental in our making an affirmative choice to lease the Liberty Theatre and we find their involvement a positive asset to our company."

- Rand Thornsley,
Owner of the Liberty Theatre

"The Downtown Camas Association has demonstrated a passionate commitment to promoting Downtown Camas, which is one of the reasons why we decided to invest in a hotel and restaurant in Camas. I hope that in time all Camas residents will come to appreciate and support their Downtown core."

- Karen Hall,
Owner of the Camas Hotel



"The DCA has been invaluable to our company through promoting Downtown Camas as a destination for people to explore and has been valuable in their ability to reach people through all avenues of social media. Their quest is to make sure that Downtown businesses thrive and their dedication to the cause is apparent on every level."

- Shelene Asprecc,
Manager of Navidi's Olive Oils and Vinegars Store

MAIN STREET PROGRAM

Main Street is a national movement that has spanned three decades and taken root in more than 2,000 communities - a movement that has spurred \$49 billion in reinvestment in traditional commercial districts, galvanized thousands of volunteers, and changed the way governments, planners, and developers view preservation.

Over the past 30 years, the National Trust Main Street Center has overseen the development of a national network of coordinating programs that includes 37 statewide, seven citywide, and two regional programs. These programs help cities, towns, and villages revitalize their downtown and neighborhood business districts.

Main Street applies a Four-Point Approach to revitalization: **Organization, Promotion, Design, and Economic Restructuring.**

Organization establishes consensus and cooperation by building partnerships among groups that have a stake in the commercial district. A governing board of directors and standing committees make up the fundamental organizational structure of volunteer-driven revitalization programs.

Promotion supports a positive image that rekindles community pride and improves consumer and investor confidence in the commercial district. Advertising, retail promotions, special events, and marketing campaigns support awareness within the community of what the Downtown business district has to offer.

Design means getting Main Street into top physical shape and creating a safe, inviting environment for shoppers, workers, and visitors. Design activities include good maintenance practices in the commercial district, enhancing the district's physical appearance through rehabilitation of historic buildings, encouraging appropriate new construction, developing sensitive design management, educating business and property owners about design quality and long-term planning.

Economic Restructuring strengthens the community's existing economic assets while diversifying its economic base. This is accomplished by retaining and expanding successful businesses to provide a balanced commercial mix, sharpening competitiveness and merchandising skills of business owners. The goal is to respond to the needs of today's consumers.



Main Street B&O Tax Credit



Any business that pays B&O tax in the state of Washington can help strengthen community through the Business & Occupation Tax Incentive Program. This program allows companies to donate to the Downtown Camas Association and receive a 75% Washington State B&O tax credit while also receiving a federal tax deduction.

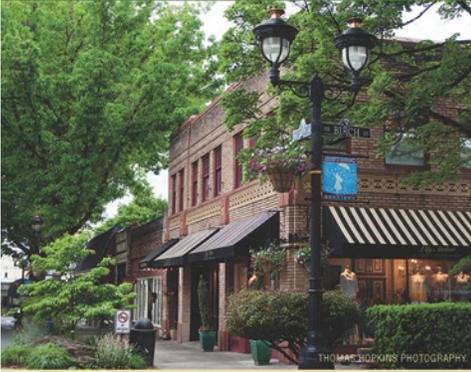
The DCA, a member of the WA State Main Street Program, is funded largely by benefactors who donate through WA State's B&O Tax Credit Incentive Program. The Washington State Main Street Program allows up to \$133,333 in donations in the Tax Incentive Program to each of 27 eligible Main Street cities like Camas. Many have taken advantage of the full amount in order to make the largest impact in their local community. Let's be one of them!

The statewide allocation is capped at 1.5 million and is a first come, first served credit by pledges (you can pledge early in the year to assure the credit ; donation needs to be made by end of year). Together we can maximize the benefit to Downtown Camas. [See the specific details on the next page on how to enroll in the WA Main Street Tax Credit program to make a difference in your community today!](#)

The DCA's use of Washington's unique tax advantage is a testament to our proven strategy for strengthening the downtown core. We are thankful that Washington State understands the benefits of supporting historic downtowns and provides this incentive as a funding mechanism.

The Downtown Camas Association is a strong stakeholder in promoting a robust community by fostering Downtown Camas vitality. The DCA has an active board, two dedicated staff positions, and many committed volunteers that carry out all the activities that help to promote and broaden the offerings of downtown. Business support, sponsorship, and partnerships enable the DCA to fund and execute programs and efforts that enhance, preserve, and strengthen Downtown Camas.

We hope you see donating to the Downtown Camas Association as a valuable use of your charitable dollars in the interest of a continually thriving community.



THOMAS BOKRIS PHOTOGRAPHY

HOW DOES THE B&O TAX CREDIT INCENTIVE PROGRAM WORK FOR MY BUSINESS?

THE MAIN STREET B&O TAX CREDIT incentive program allows businesses that pay Washington State Business & Occupation taxes online to make a donation to the Downtown Camas Association (501c3) and in return, earn a 75% state tax credit on that donation amount. In addition, the donation amount is eligible for a federal tax deduction.

PROJECTED USES OF B&O FUNDING



"We were so pleased to learn about the Main Street B&O tax credit from the DCA. We often feel like we have no idea where our tax dollars go. Utilizing this tax credit allows you to specifically allocate where and that feels good!"
 —Jenny Haugen of Interstate Batteries of Columbia River



MAKE YOUR PLEDGE TODAY!

Designating your tax dollars toward your community is as simple as 7 clicks.

1. Sign into your e-file account at DOR and select "Credits & Tax Incentives."
2. Click on "Apply for Main Street Credit."
3. Click on "Get Started."
4. Select Downtown Camas Association and click on "Next."
5. Type in the contribution amount (your pledge) and click on "Next."
6. Approve the summary page and click "Next."
7. Click on "I agree" or "I Disagree" for permission to release the contribution amount to the DCA.

When making the actual contribution, email director@downtowncamas.com or phone 360-216-7378 to be issued a receipt from the DCA.



The Washington Main Street Program allows up to \$133,000 of tax credit incentive to each of 27 eligible Main Street cities like Camas. Many have taken advantage of the full amount in order to make the largest impact in their local community. **Let's be one of them!**

The statewide allocation is capped at \$1.5 million and is first come, first served by pledges. Together we can maximize the benefit to Camas, and your generosity will make a recognizable and profound difference that will be greatly appreciated by the entire community. **ACT NOW** to make your pledge and direct your tax dollars to your own community!

PLEDGE NOW

Enroll and make your pledge to the DCA at the [DOR website](#) using the 7 easy steps (at the right).

BEFORE DEC 31 OF THIS YEAR

Make your contribution to the DCA by mail (P.O. Box 1034, Camas, WA 98607) and receive a receipt for your tax deductible donation.

BETWEEN JAN 1 AND DEC 31 OF NEXT YEAR

Apply your 75% credit from a drop down menu at the DOR website.

Here's the 7 easy steps to make your pledge. The DCA will then invoice.

1. Sign into your e-file account at DOR and select "Credits & Tax Incentives."
2. Click on "Apply for Main Street Credit."
3. Click on "Get Started."
4. Select Downtown Camas Association and click on "Next."
5. Type in the contribution amount "your pledge) and click on "Next."
6. Approve the summary page and click "Next."
7. Click on "I agree" or "I Disagree" for permission to release the contribution amount to the DCA.

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