

September Membership Lunch Tickets Going Fast

The Roseburg Area Chamber's September 16 membership lunch will feature a presentation on Measure 118. Measure 118, which will be on the November ballot, would implement a massive new \$6.8 Billion tax on sales in Oregon, driving up costs on even staples like food and medicine for Oregon consumers. It also would make Oregon's businesses less competitive, eroding job growth and harming family farms and local businesses across the state. The Roseburg Area Chamber actively opposes Measure 118.

The chamber's September membership lunch program is generously sponsored by <u>CSO Financial</u>. Chamber membership lunches are held from 11:45 am to 1:00 pm at the Douglas County fairgrounds. Advanced ticket purchase is required. Online ticket sales only. Tickets are not available at the door. **The last day to purchase tickets is September 11 at noon**. <u>GET TICKETS NOW!</u>

ACTION ALERT! Still Time to Comment on DEQ's 2024 Climate Protection Program

The Oregon DEQ is accepting public comment on its Climate Protection Program. *Comment by September 27!*

In 2023, the Oregon Court of Appeals struck down the Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) Climate Protection Program (CPP), which would have raised energy prices for Oregonians, including our businesses, hospital and schools. Now, the agency is back with the same costly program and is seeking public comment on the draft rules.

While the program's environmental goals are commendable, the financial burden on our local businesses, organizations, residents, and all Oregonians should not be overlooked. The CPP will lead to increased energy costs for consumers, putting a strain on budgets that are already stretched too thin.

The Oregon DEQ acknowledges in their own draft Fiscal Impact Statement that compliance costs for fuel suppliers, including natural gas utilities, will likely be passed on to consumers. In the same document, they maintain this could disproportionately impact businesses, industries, and low-income households in rural areas like Douglas County, which may face challenges transitioning to clean energy and are less resilient to price increases. Regardless, they continue to push forward with the program.

Energy cost increases are also anticipated for other large natural gas customers like local hospitals, manufacturers and schools, since the rule contains no cost caps.

On August 26, the Roseburg Area Chamber submitted its comment letter to the Oregon DEQ regarding its proposed CPP. Read RACC Comment Letter. The deadline to submit comments to the DEQ is September 27 at 4:00 pm.

Send your comments to the DEQ, urging them to consider the economic impact this program will have on Oregonians, by direct email HERE or via Voter Voice HERE.

The Coalition Voting "NO" on \$6.8 Billion Annual Tax on Sales is Growing!

Join local and statewide organizations, businesses, elected officials and individuals Voting NO on Measure 118! If passed by voters in November, the massive \$6.8 Billion annual tax on sales would be the largest tax increase in Oregon's history. This drastic measure is a "tax on a tax" that would make Oregon products more expensive, make companies less competitive, and increase prices on Oregon consumers.

If you haven't already done so, please visit **NOonMeasure118.com** to get important information about this flawed proposal. Join our <u>growing coalition</u> and, be sure to like and follow the campaign on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>X</u> and <u>Instagram</u>. Please share information about this devastating tax on gross sales with others.

Member Exclusive: Reserve Your Bold Listing or Ad Space Now!

The chamber is accepting ad and bold listing reservations in its 2025 *InUmpqua* magazine--a digital and print business directory, community profile and visitor guide. The *InUmpqua* is made available to residents and businesses throughout Douglas County, distributed to visitors and potential new residents and to chambers/visitor information centers in Oregon. The online digital edition is one of the chamber's most popular downloads. This publication remains one of the best advertising values available to promote your business or organization to other businesses, residents and visitors. See our 2024 *InUmpqua* digital edition online. Be sure and check out our advertisers; their support allows the chamber to produce this magazine and we are so appreciative!

The contract submission DEADLINE for reserving advertising space or bold listing is September 30. The ad submission deadline is October 15. CLICK HERE to download a copy of the 2025 *InUmpqua* rate sheet and advertising agreement.

More Chamber News

The chamber has two spots available for this year's <u>Project Leadership Roseburg</u> program beginning on September 12. If you, or one of your employees, are interested in participating in this year's program, <u>email me!</u>

See past issues of the chamber's *Business Perspectives* newsletter and past RACC-member communications <u>HERE</u> and <u>"Current News"</u> online. Check out RACC <u>"Issues & Positions."</u> Visit the <u>Chamber Calendar</u> online for chamber programs, events and deadlines. Your best resource for chamber information is on the <u>Roseburg Area Chamber website!</u>
Follow us on <u>Instagram</u> and <u>Facebook!</u>

Debbie

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