

S U C C E S S S T O R I E S

Community & Economic Development Program

http://www.lanecountry.org/CAO_EconDev/

- *\$1.4 million has been raised to build the Planet Improvement Center*
- *6.5 FTE jobs will be created*
- *3 acre site doubles BRING's existing facilities*



Greg "GregO" Manning, BRING's ReUse Warehouse Manager intakes a salvaged door for resale.

Lane County Grants \$100,000 to BRING's Planet Improvement Center

By Heather M. Edwards

Lane County do-it-yourselfers have been saving money at [BRING Recycling](#) for more than thirty years. The one-stop donation and resale site is where the old proverbial trash becomes treasure. Donated windows, bricks, lumber, bikes, toilets, cabinets, skis, yard and gardening supplies are just some of the salvaged materials available in abundance to BRING's loyal customer base.

If you've haven't been there yet and can't imagine how one non-profit can recycle 550 tons of material in a year, multiply a garage sale by a neighborhood. Then multiply that by a community. This humble corner lot frequently vexed by flooding and constantly overgrown by blackberry vines is easy to miss on your way to Mount Pisgah. But behind some chain link fences and collection bins for traditional recycling is an open-air market that has met the local standard of reusing as a sustainable method of resource conservation.

The mainstream trend of recycling is a testament to the success of BRING and similar organizations. As recycling goes mainstream, BRING is ready to go too.

The [Planet Improvement Center](#) will be BRING's new home. Behind the Glenwood Uhaul on the way to LCC is a 3-acre lot that will house a 10,000 sq. ft. warehouse—a great covered and well-lit shopping area that will protect both the retail goods and future customers from weather damage. Storage and sorting of donated materials will be housed in a second covered building and customer service in the third covered building.

In February of 2005 the Lane County Board of Commissioners awarded \$100,000 for BRING to purchase materials for these three "green buildings". Construction is scheduled to begin in March 2006 and completion of the entire Planet Improvement Center is projected for fall/winter of 2006/2007.

This impressive use of funding achieves Lane County Strategic Goals of increasing family-wage jobs, maintaining a healthy environment and protecting public assets. According to Executive Director Julie Daniel, government funding from Lane County leveraged broad support from private donors and other agencies. The community as a whole will soon benefit from this extensive collaboration.

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