Why Ukiah?

Ukiah is located along the busy Hwy 101 corridor (13,300 vehicles per day), just two hours north of the Golden Gate Bridge. Also near the east-west Highway 20, Ukiah is the perfectly convenient mid-point between the Bay Area, the Sacramento Valley, the north coast, and the Oregon border.

**Population:** 16,075 (city limits). However, Ukiah is the Mendocino County seat and the business/education/shopping center for much of Mendocino, Lake, and even Sonoma Counties, serving a population that is estimated by large format retail to be roughly 180,000.

**Taxable sales in Ukiah in 2008:** $399.3 million (32% of total County); taxable sales increased 63% in Ukiah between 1998 and 2008.

Business Resources: How We Can Help You

Ukiah's comprehensive workforce development network includes education, training, support services, and the facilitation of business development, job retention and expansion. We'll help you make the connections you need.

**Pre-Development Meetings:** The City of Ukiah is happy to facilitate pre-development meetings for commercial real estate and new business projects. We'll help take the guesswork out of the project by gathering representatives from Planning, Building, Fire, Public Works, and more to evaluate your project and any prospective properties you have in mind.

**Business Liaison Program:** Not sure who to call? Our Business Liaison Program facilitates development by providing a single point of contact for those embarking on commercial endeavors.

**Business Resource Documents Online:** City staff is constantly updating the Business section of our website. We have created new resource documents to facilitate business recruitment and retention and placed them at your fingertips. Find demographic studies, traffic counts, and more at www.cityofukiah.com.

**Rebates:** Let our staff help connect your business with rebate opportunities like commercial lighting, energy-saving appliance, or photovoltaic system rebates.
**Financing:** Looking for financing? City staff can connect you with organizations that specialize in helping fund small business, as well as those who can assist with creating a business plan and other essential services.

**Utility Rate Analysis:** The City of Ukiah owns and operates its own electric utility service, with commercial rates significantly lower than PG&E's. Plus, we can help analyze your utility rates to ensure that you're getting the best possible deal.

**Meetings and Conventions:** Need space for meetings or events? The Ukiah Valley Conference Center attracts hundreds of visitors to the downtown every month and is also home to the Ukiah Visitor Center. The Conference Center also boasts a commercial kitchen and all the technological amenities you'll need.

**What’s Ahead for Ukiah**

The Ukiah community has lots to look forward to in the next few years. Some major projects are just getting underway. The results? Higher property values, more jobs, and an even better quality of life. Here’s some of what’s planned:

- Downtown Streetscape Program, which will bring wider sidewalks, more street furniture, safer crossings, and improved traffic flow through the downtown.
- New Ukiah Courthouse, which will include on-site parking and improved ADA access
- Grace Hudson Museum Park Project, creating a cultural and educational experience on the grounds surrounding the acclaimed Grace Hudson Museum and Sun House
- Rail Trail Project, which will create a walking and biking path along the rails that extends from the north to the south ends of Ukiah
- Ukiah Valley Medical Center Expansion, a significant expansion of our local medical center
- Costco, a major development that will help capture retail sales lost to nearby Santa Rosa and cement Ukiah as a retail hub for northern California.

**The Community: Because Quality of Life Matters**

Ukiah was voted “Best in California” and the “6th Best Small Town in the US” by Norman Crampton’s *The 100 Best Small Towns in America* and one of “8 Great Places You’ve Never Heard Of” by *Mother Earth News*.

With beautiful, tree-lined streets, an 18-hole golf course, and countless parks, Ukiah is truly a wonderful place to relax. The scenic valley is also surrounded by lakes, rivers, towering redwoods, and wineries and vineyards.

*Sunset Magazine* recently profiled Ukiah, praising its “19th century architecture, charming tree-lined neighborhoods, and laid-back vibe.”

Year-round events bring traffic downtown, including the farmers’ market, Moonlight Movie Madness, Ukiah Country Pumpkinfest, Taste of Downtown, holiday light parades, and more.

Visit Ukiah, Ukiah’s Visitor Attraction Program, is working hard to bring visitors to the area. Since 2011, the Transient Occupancy Tax revenue has increased by over 35%.