



WPPA Executive Committee Newsletter

June 3, 2022



WPPA President's Corner

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new Interim Executive Director, Patsy Martin, on behalf of the Executive Committee and the ports community. Her direct presence in the day-to-day operations of the Association will introduce stability, consistency, and move WPPA into the future, together with you, the membership. Please take a moment to welcome Patsy- her contact information is pmartin@washingtonports.org and her number is (360) 763-1179. We may have a lot of hard work ahead of us, but I have confidence in Patsy's proven leadership.

A word from the Interim Executive Director

Finally, the weather is beginning to look like summer will happen in the Pacific Northwest. We are now feeling some warmer temperatures, blue skies and dry days. It's been a long, cold, rainy May. Like the difficult weather outside, WPPA has had its challenges on the inside. But now, together, we too are looking forward to summer coming to WPPA.

I have been asked to serve as the interim executive director at WPPA to help us move forward. To do that I have a work plan that includes (among other things) the following areas of focus:

- Fully and appropriately staff WPPA
- Build WPPA's financial strength and resilience



- Grow your trust in WPPA staff, members and value

With you, I'm excited to help move WPPA forward toward summer weather.

Event information hub

Time to get ready for the new WPPA website experience! The newly revamped website will be launched using a phased process, beginning with a members-only login, streamlined registration process, and an improved email system, available by the end of June. A big thank you to our member focus group for helping design the site, organize the content, and provide insight into projects to improve the online member experience for the future. We will be giving you a tour of the new website and providing an FAQ sheet ahead of launch, so stay tuned for more information.

At the Spring Meeting, we heard some concerns about the ability of commissioners to login to the member discussion forums and inadvertently subvert Open Public Meeting Act requirements. To address this issue, we will limit commissioners to read-only access in the discussion forums. Before launching this one feature, though, we are going to make sure our proposed solution is compliant with the OPMA regulation.

Next Tuesday, June 7, we will be giving a Compass Award to Representative Steve Tharinger. If you haven't registered yet for the Tuesday Roundtable on Zoom, you can do that with the button below. We hope to see you there to show your support for Rep. Tharinger, a champion of port needs across the state.



[Register for Rep. Tharinger's](#)

Spotlight on...working groups



Last week, we featured WPPA’s many committees, all of which do important work to coordinate ports across the state and provide technical or other expertise to WPPA leadership.

This week, we wanted to highlight other informal working groups. Some are communities of practice for port professionals in a particular field, while others are meant to provide targeted education on a particular topic...still others help direct and guide WPPA staff to ensure a port voice in decision-making. You can see these working groups below, plus contact information for the group’s leadership should you wish to become involved. *Remember, though, WPPA is currently short-staffed, so please have patience with staff members as they work to respond to questions and return your emails.*

Committee name	Chair(s)	Typical meeting schedule	Open to all members?	Staff contact
Port Procurement Resource Group	Maija Lampinen, Port of Everett; Dawn Egbert, Port of Vancouver USA	Meet Quarterly	Yes	Chris Herman
Broadband Committee	Sara Young, Port of Skagit; Kara Riebold, Port of Whitman County	Meet Monthly	Yes	Patsy Martin
Information Sharing and Cybersecurity Working Group	Currently forming-volunteers Jay Grant of Port of Edmonds;	Not Yet Determined	Yes	Jessica Wilson

	Chris Carter of Port of Vancouver USA			
Website Redesign Working Group	Open- Please Contact Jessica Wilson if Interested	As-Needed to Consult with Updates, Changes, and Improvements to the Website	Yes	Jessica Wilson



Washington Public Ports Association

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