



WASHINGTON PUBLIC PORTS ASSOCIATION

THE MANIFEST

RECAP: 2018'S LEGISLATIVE SESSION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Last week we concluded a very successful 60-day legislative session. We accomplished more than expected on a number of important issues, from broadband authority to establishing a bid limit for ports -- we're pleased with the outcomes for Washington's ports.

Mark Wilson, Port of Kalama and Chair of the WPPA Legislative Committee said, "I express my thanks to the WPPA staff and our members who have worked with the legislature to accomplish a very successful legislative session. This is particularly noteworthy in an active short session."

Bid Limits - with the combination of two bills championed by WPPA, all ports now have the ability to contract for projects under the bid limit of \$40,000. This increases efficiency of port operations and allows the contracting process to follow a common-sense path.

Broadband Authority - in a move set to bring extended economic development opportunities and strengthened education and public safety systems to the entirety of the state, broadband authority has been extended to all ports, enabling them to efficiently allow affordable high-quality internet services, and increase quality of life in Washington state.

Marine Pilotage - one of the notable accomplishments of this session is the transferring of tariff-setting authority to the Utilities and Transportation Commission, allowing the pilotage commission to focus more resources on safety and efficiency of ship movement in Puget Sound.

Milwaukee Road - we eliminated the sunset clause for an important rail corridor, and have retained the existing framework to be used for rail transportation at any time in the future.

Budget Wins - Other wins include projects funded under the Capital and Transportation Budgets, in addition to increased funding for CERB Broadband projects.

Projects were funded at the Port of Allyn, Port of Chinook, Port of Ilwaco, Port of Sunnyside, Port of Vancouver and Port of Willapa Harbor.

The Port of Centralia received \$3 million in the Transportation Budget intended for the development of Centralia Station

The Voting Rights Act, (SB 6002) passed the legislature, and covers port districts as well as local governments. We hope for smooth implementation, and will continue to present information and education on this topic.

SPOTLIGHT

PORT OF EVERETT NEARS COMPLETION ON \$12 MILLION PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

The Port of Everett is nearing completion on \$12 million in public infrastructure projects at Fisherman's Harbor — the first phase of the Port's 65-acre Waterfront Place mixed-use development. Located on 12 acres adjacent to West Marine View Drive and the Central Marina, the project is on schedule for completion this month. Work has included the upland and in-water infrastructure for the district including roadways, utilities, marine elements and public access amenities.

Both public infrastructure and private investment projects are currently in the works:

This spring, the Port will begin additional roadway and public access improvements to connect Fisherman's Harbor with the Central Docks. The work will conclude with the opening of the District in mid to late-2019.

In fall 2018, the Port will kick off construction on the new Guest Dock 5 and dock walk. The \$2.5 million dock addition, funded in part by a \$1.44 million Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) Boating Infrastructure Grant from the state, creates a new 800-foot dock along the western edge of Fisherman's Harbor. The dock will connect to an existing float and gatehouse to create a continuous public dock walk.

Hotel Indigo is set to break ground on a 142-room hotel in spring 2018. The hotel, to be managed by Columbia Hospitality, is anticipated to open in mid-2019 and will feature a restaurant, lounge, swimming pool, event space and a business center.

REMINDER: REGISTRATION FOR THE SPRING MEETING IS NOW OPEN

MAY 9-11 - VANCOUVER, WA

Continued next page

FROM ERIC JOHNSON



From time to time Supreme Courts take up cases that have a big effect across a broad swath of society. Here, our state's Supreme Court did just that with the McLeary case a few years ago. Although the case was decided in 2012, it took until now for the results to show up in your property tax bills. I guess that is a change-up.

In the federal Supreme Court another case is teed up that might change our politics here even more. It relates to labor unions, who have an very big political influence in Olympia and in many local communities. The case comes out of Illinois, and is called Janus v. AFSCME. Remember the name Janus – I predict that you are going to be hearing it a lot in about three months.

Mr. Janus is a state employee who does not want his mandatory union dues to be used for political purposes. He brought a First Amendment case against the union that represents his unit of state workers. He asks the federal courts to rule that it is unconstitutional to have what is often referred to as a "closed shop" for public employees. In a nutshell, if he wins public sector employees can individually decide if they want to be in the union, even if

the union bargains for them on wages and working conditions.

Two weeks ago the US Supreme Court heard the case and nearly every legal scholar I read - including the ones sympathetic to the unions – think that organized labor will lose. The court will actually be overturning a 1977 case allowing states to set their own laws relating to public-sector unions.

The Janus case isn't just an inside fastball to organized labor. It is a beanball at their head. And you cannot storm the mound when Supreme Court justices throw the pitch.

Why am I writing about this? Because this case could change the political climate here in a big way. In most states – including ours – public sector unions are the majority of union membership. If Mr. Janus wins his case, labor politics will tilt towards the 'blue-collar' unions. Union political contributions will also decrease overall. It will not happen immediately, but it will happen.

Whether this is a good thing or a bad thing isn't something I am going to write about here. You'll have to go to a baseball game with me to learn what I think. Oddly, when I yell at the umpires in a big-league game I am yelling at men who are all unionized. I'm glad that they cannot bargain for fans to not loudly question their vision, lineage or mental acuity.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Spring Meeting May 9-11, 2018

Hilton, Vancouver, WA
(Registration Opens March 2018)

Finance & Administration Seminar June 13-15, 2018

Enzian Inn, Leavenworth

Director's Seminar July 12-13

McMenamins Harbor Lodge,
Kalama

Commissioners Seminar July 22-24, 2018

Suncadia Resort, Cle Elum

Small Ports Seminar October 18-19, 2018

Enzian Inn, Leavenworth

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Events & Marketing Coordinator

Port of Anacortes

Cost Recovery Specialist

Port of Seattle

Fairgrounds Director

Port of South Whidbey

Senior Environmental Program Manager

Port of Seattle

RFQ/RFP - Port Attorney

Port of Port Townsend

Deputy Director

Port of Chelan County

Director of Finance & Administration

Port of Grays Harbor

Technician I, Accounting

Port of Tacoma

Business Development Manager I or II

Northwest Seaport Alliance

Executive Director

West Plains / Airport Area Public
Development Authority

Executive Director

Port of Othello

SPOTLIGHT (con't)

SeaLevel Properties is anticipated to begin construction on 266 waterfront apartment units in fall 2018, with anticipated completion in summer 2020.

Lastly, The Schuster Group has entered a long-term ground lease to bring restaurants and retail to Fisherman's Harbor, began tenant recruitment. Restaurant construction is anticipated in the fall 2018 timeframe.

If you would like information on any of these positions, visit:

washingtonports.org/washington-ports/employment-opportunities