

SUPPLY CHAIN COMPETITIVENESS

Washington Public Ports Association



Collaboration, Advocacy, Education, Research

The Washington Public Ports Association (WPPA) represents all 75 port districts across the state. We work to advance and support policies that strengthen Washington’s ports as engines of trade, economic development, environmental stewardship, and community vitality. WPPA’s 2026 advocacy focuses on keeping ports competitive, sustainable, and capable of supporting statewide economic growth.

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Challenge:

Washington’s trade-driven economy relies on a transportation system that operates efficiently. Barriers and bottlenecks to the movement of goods can increase cost, deter job growth, and limit private sector investment, reducing our state’s overall competitiveness.



Solutions:

Port districts seek additional infrastructure spending focused on capital projects that reduce barriers and support critical supply chains including agriculture, manufacturing, aerospace, clean energy and more.

SUPPORT:

HB 1860/SB 5649 creates a supply chain competitiveness infrastructure grant program designed to fund port and supply chain infrastructure that supports Washington’s trade-driven economy.

Washington’s Economy

Agriculture and food processing is Washington’s 2nd largest trade-driven export industry with more than 300 crops grown in Washington. The industry generates more than \$21 billion in revenue and supports over 171,000 jobs.

Washington is the 3rd largest food and agricultural exporting state in the United States. A competitive port network is vital to the ongoing strength of farmers and rural communities across the state.



Benefits:



Collaboration

Supply chain bottlenecks can span multiple owners and be complicated by a lack of alignment. HB 1860 and SB 5649 address this by fostering collaboration and providing resources to resolve freight congestion.



Multimodal Solutions

Truck, rail, and waterborne transport each serve a key purpose in moving goods in Washington. This program focuses on resolving conflict and supporting the mode of transport most efficient for the job.



Port-Freight Development Plans

Projects must be included in a port’s Freight Development Plan. This ensures the project has been vetted by local, regional, and state transportation partners prior to seeking funding through this program.