

2017 State Legislative Agenda

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Priority Agenda Items

- **Maritime and manufacturing land use:** Provide detailed information to legislators and to House and Senate Committees on the current land use issues facing Washington ports, with a specific focus on zoning issues related to the Growth Management Act that may affect port competitiveness. This may include testimony from subject matter experts or Commissioners, letters to relevant committees, along with potential development of legislative proposals through which the state can express its support for port facilities as facilities of statewide economic significance.
- **Workforce development:** Support proposals to enhance state investments in workforce development in the maritime, manufacturing, and industrial sectors. This may include advocating for additional funding for the Core-Plus Program and possible amendments to port statute to ensure ports can continue to play a role in workforce development in these sectors. Continue to support funding for high school students to pursue summer internships in maritime and manufacturing related fields.
- **Fishing fleet modernization:** Support policies that will promote construction of new fishing boats in Washington State shipyards while making the fleet more efficient, both operationally and environmentally. Identify additional funding mechanisms through the state that can further lower the cost of building new fishing boats in Washington shipyards.

Priority items

Priority Agenda Items – continued

- **Statewide tourism marketing authority:** Support efforts to establish a statewide tourism funding authority to fund statewide tourism marketing efforts. Identify a means of funding the statewide tourism authority, and ensure that funds collected for tourism marketing are not used for other purposes or transferred to the state general fund.
- **REAL ID compliance:** Provide detailed information on the potential ramifications of Washington State’s continued non-compliance with federal REAL ID law, and work with legislators and stakeholders to build collective support behind a legislative solution that will bring the state into compliance with federal law prior to the January 2018 deadline.

Priority Items

Priority Issue Areas

- **Transportation:** Closely monitor, and support continued funding of, state transportation projects that are critical to Port of Seattle and Northwest Seaport Alliance operations, including the Puget Sound Gateway Project, the Lander Street Grade Separation Project, the Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement Project, and others. Support proposals that speed the movement of freight from origin to destination, and to export markets through seaport and airport facilities.
- **Environment:** Closely monitor, and support continued funding of, state investments in environmental cleanup programs. That includes those programs funded through the Model Toxics Control Act, such as Remedial Action Grants, Public Participation Grants, and local stormwater grants, which assist Port efforts to promote environmental stewardship and support Washington State's pursuit of a healthier Puget Sound.
- **Quality jobs:** Support proposals that seek to provide equity in the workplace for disadvantaged groups, including through the possible repeal of Initiative 200, and augment existing Port efforts to promote the health of small businesses, including disadvantaged, minority, and women owned business enterprises.

Issue Areas

Priority Issue Areas – continued

- **Energy:** Support proposals that may reduce carbon emissions from Port operations and promote energy efficient operation of transportation infrastructure. This may include proposals to allow municipal utilities broader flexibility in installing infrastructure that can incent energy consumers to transition to clean sources of power; proposals that seek to incentivize biofuel production for aviation purposes; and policies that promote renewable energy generation, among others.
- **Tax:** Support tax policy that promotes the efficient movement of freight and supports those communities that house the infrastructure necessary to maintain the maritime and manufacturing base of the Puget Sound region.

Issue Areas

Next Steps

- November 8, 2016 – Potential commission adoption
- November-December 2016 – Meetings with key legislators to distribute agenda and share priorities
- January 9, 2017 – First day of 2017 legislative session

Questions?