

PORT OF SEATTLE
MEMORANDUM

COMMISSION AGENDA-POLICY & STAFF BRIEFING

Item No.	<u>6c</u>
Date of Meeting	<u>January 27, 2009</u>

DATE: January 22, 2009

TO: Tay Yoshitani, Chief Executive Officer

FROM: Kurt Beckett, Director, External Affairs
Geri Poor, Regional Transportation Manager

SUBJECT: Alaskan Way Viaduct/Seawall Replacement Project

BACKGROUND

In March 2007, the Governor, Mayor and County Executive announced a Collaborative Process to pursue the solution for the Viaduct's central waterfront. Guided by six principles, they evaluated eight scenarios, with multiple components such as investments in the SR99 corridor, city streets, Interstate 5, transit and demand management strategies. On Tuesday, January 13th, the elected leadership announced the selection of a Bored Tunnel Hybrid alternative, and the potential for Port of Seattle participation.

TODAY'S BRIEFING

At today's briefing, Port staff will present an update on project benefits and issues for the Port of Seattle.

PREVIOUS COMMISSION REVIEW

After the March 2007 announcement of the Collaborative Process, the Port CEO voiced our business interests to the Mayor, the Governor and the County Executive. Maintaining system capacity, freight mobility, access to waterfront businesses and the seawall's function are critical to the Port. As important, construction must be planned to mitigate impacts and support Port tenants and other private businesses.

In August 2007, the Commission reviewed and commented on the six Moving Forward projects and an overview of the central waterfront Collaborative Process.

In August 2008, the agencies' presented the guiding principles and measures and the eight scenarios for Commission review and discussion. In advance and in response, Port staff summarized the discussions between the project team and the Port, including the Commission's consistent statements about our overarching tenets to maintain or enhance: system functionality, complementary system upgrades, freight mobility, access to Port and other waterfront properties (including provision for growth in business activity) and the seawall's function. These tenets must be measured both for the final design concept and for its construction impacts.

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In December 2008, the Commission heard from Speaker of the House Frank Chopp, and reviewed and commented on the project team about the scenarios' performance on the guiding principles and measures. On December 16th, the Port Commission passed a motion recommending to the State, City, and County that a Subsurface Hybrid option be retained for further study as part of the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall replacement project.

On January 6, 2009, Port staff updated the Commission on the anticipated process for the final recommendation.