

**PORT OF SEATTLE**  
**MEMORANDUM**

**COMMISSION AGENDA**

**Item No.** 4a

**Date of Meeting** August 17, 2010

**DATE:** August 10, 2010

**TO:** Tay Yoshitani, Chief Executive Officer

**FROM:** Jane Kilburn, Director, Public Affairs

**SUBJECT:** Special Order of Business - 2010 Awards Received by the Port of Seattle

Since the beginning of the year, the Port and Port staff have received a number of awards from outside professional organizations in recognition of outstanding achievements or professional competence in areas such as investment policy, budget presentation, communications, and environmental leadership. The Port is also being recognized for having a “zero defect” Transportation Security Administration Audit.

The awards are:

**American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA):**

○ **2010 Comprehensive Environmental Management Award**

The AAPA awarded the Port of Seattle the 2010 Environmental Improvement Award for the "Environmental Compliance Assessment Program (ECAP)." Started in 2009, the program is designed to evaluate and assist with tenants' ability to meet the high public expectations and stringent compliance regulations for environmental quality. The ECAP process focuses on collaboration with tenants, educating each on environmental issues that could impact their operations. A rating system is used to determine the potential risks associated with industrial activities. The program has become an effective tool for promoting healthy business practices while helping the port promote pollution prevention and good environmental stewardship.

○ **Award of Excellence - Annual Report to the Community 2008-2009**

The AAPA recognized the Port's 2008-2009 Annual Report as being particularly noteworthy for its innovative approach to creating and publishing an annual report on a very limited budget. Each entry was judged by four seasoned communications professionals from the National Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America. The paperless (electronic) annual report highlights the Port's financial and business activity for the period and features hyperlinks, videos, slide shows and zoom-in capability, and is the first one the Port published in an online magazine-style format.

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### **○ Award of Merit - Environmental Annual Report 2009-2010**

The Port's Annual Environmental Report covers data and activities for the year 2009 as well as some achievements in early 2010. It includes an overview of successes and challenges and graphic representation of specific metrics gauging progress against specific goals. This report also is paperless in keeping with our environmental values. The Port of Seattle is one of the few ports nationwide that publishes an annual Environmental Report.

### **○ Award of Merit - Employee Intranet site "Compass"**

The Port's "Compass" page also was recognized by AAPA. This intranet site received a fresh, branded design on a Microsoft SharePoint platform with the intent to provide a primary news source to engage employees. It was built by a team of technical and communication collaborators, and involved nearly 100 content providers from across the Port. It incorporates videos, a blog, daily news, collaborative sites, and a number of self-service applications. Compass is used frequently by almost every Port employee.

## **The Association of Public Treasuries – Certificate of Excellence**

The Association of Public Treasurers of the United States & Canada (APT US&C) has an Investment Policy Certification Process that allows public entities the ability to submit their investment policies for certification. The Port's investment policy was submitted for peer review and certification and received the Certificate of Excellence Award. This award ensures the Port's investment policy complies with all prescribed components in the 18 areas of the APT US&C's model policy, adheres to the affected State investment statutes and does not exceed prudent risk parameters for public treasurers.

## **Editors' Choice Awards 2010 Best Airport for Connections - SmarterTravel.com**

Prior to the opening of Concourse A in 2004, and the opening of the Central Terminal in 2005, the Airport had six checkpoints: A, B, C, D, North Satellite, and South Satellite, compared to today's 1,2,3,4. Each checkpoint was operated by a different third party vendor contracted by the airline with the most enplanements on that concourse. Passengers attempting to connect between concourses had to exit the concourse on which they had landed and then be rescreened to enter their connecting concourse. Thus, in 1998, a key objective was initiated in the Terminal Facilities Plan (TFP) to connect all concourses behind security so that connections could more easily be made. This was a very conscious and deliberate intent on behalf of customer service. It has paid off in recognition that it is easier to connect with on-going flights at Sea-Tac than at many other airports.

## **Government Finance Officers Association Distinguished Budget Presentation Award**

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The Port of Seattle received the “Distinguished Budget Presentation Award” for its [2010 Budget Document](#) from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada. As stated in the GFOA award notification, “this award represents a significant achievement by the entity. It reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of government budgeting.”

In order to receive this budget award, the Port had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation and must publish a budget document that meets program criteria as a policy document, as a financial plan, as an operations guide, and as a communications device. The Port’s 2010 Budget Document was prepared in accordance with strict standards established by GFOA. This is the third consecutive time that the Port has earned the prestigious GFOA award. The Port is proud that its budget document meets GFOA’s high standards. Well drafted budget documents contribute to better decision-making and enhanced accountability.

### **2010 Transportation Comprehensive Security Administration Audit**

The Aviation Security Department was recently audited by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). The audit, which took over four weeks and 185 staff hours, was conducted by nine TSA Regulatory Agents. They investigated all areas of Airport Security to include: Credential Center Operations, Perimeter and Terminal Security, Regulatory Compliance, and employee knowledge of regulations. For the first time since 2002, TSA found zero reportable discrepancies.

One of the keys to the Aviation Security Department’s success is its ability to grow and develop partnerships. The department has an established relationship with TSA on both a local and national level. Seattle-Tacoma International Airport is recognized as one of the most innovative airports in aviation security. Many of our initiatives will be showcased in a nationwide TSA program highlighting “Best Practices”.