

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

**COMMISSION AGENDA**

**Item No.** 4a

**Date of Meeting** March 1, 2011

**DATE:** February 18, 2011

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

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

**SUBJECT:** Special Order of Business: The Port Centennial 1911-2011

**BACKGROUND:**

In celebration of the Port of Seattle's Centennial, at the first meeting of every month in 2011, the Port will share a moment of the Port's history.

In March 1911, the Washington State Legislature approved a law allowing the establishment of public port districts. On September 5, 1911, the voters of King County voted overwhelmingly for public ownership of the waterfront and the creation of a port district to be known as the Port of Seattle.

The Port started with just six properties focused on waterborne commerce, commercial fishing, grain export and fruit and cold storage. Those enterprises are still thriving, and the Port has since grown to include air travel, air cargo, cruise line operations and recreational boat moorage in its lines of business. Today the Port has expanded to 27 facilities over 2,000 acres, including 20 public parks. Port-owned properties support nearly 120,000 direct jobs, and many more industry-related jobs, generating \$17.6 billion in revenue for businesses and tenants.

**OTHER DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS SPECIAL ORDER:**

Notice of Special County Election – September 5, 1911