

Draft Federal Legislative Agenda for 2021

Briefing to Port of Seattle Commission
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Ryan McFarland, Federal Government Relations Manager, Port of Seattle

Eric Schinfeld, Sr. Manager, Federal Government Relations, Port of Seattle

Overview

- 2020 Key Accomplishments & 2021 Outlook
- Priority Agenda Items – Port-wide, Aviation & Maritime
- Additional Issues
 - Supporting or Engaging
 - Monitoring
- Next steps
 - Incorporate Commission feedback
 - Seek Commission adoption at 1/12/21 meeting

2020 Successes

Maritime

- **HMT:**
 - Major HMT reform included in House and Senate WRDA bills
 - Section 2106 HMT importer payment program finally implemented
- **Freight funding:** \$10 million federal grant for terminal 5
- **Navigation:** Design funding for the Seattle deepening project approved in USACE FY20 work plan

Aviation

- **COVID:**
 - \$192 million in SEA funding for 2020/2021; additional airport relief money in both House & Senate versions of CARES2
 - Supported new legislation from Senator Cantwell for a national temperature screening pilot/program, and from Representative Larsen for a national aviation pandemic response plan
- **IAF:** Coordinated with CBP DC leadership on IAF opening and operational issues
- **Aircraft noise and emissions:**
 - Supported House passage of legislation from Representative Smith requiring a national study of ultrafine particles, and legislation from Representative Jayapal increasing federal funding of residential noise insulation
 - Supporting new legislation from Representative Smith allowing for secondary insulation of “failed” noise insulation

Impactful Progress on Current Port Priorities

2021 Outlook

- **Divided government in Washington, DC**
 - Democratic President, Republican Senate and slim majority Democratic House
 - Limits potential for legislative progress
 - President has significant authorities to set policy through Executive Order and Agency rulemaking; to reverse executive actions from previous Administrations
 - “Personnel is policy”
- **Potential areas of Port-relevant legislative progress:**
 - Appropriations
 - COVID-19 relief
 - Infrastructure
 - Policing
- **Potential areas of Port-relevant executive/agency progress:**
 - COVID-19 regulation
 - Clean Energy/Climate
 - Trade
 - Immigration

Potential Opportunities for Progress on Port Priorities

Priority Agenda Items – Port-wide: COVID

- **Relief & Recovery Funding:**
 - *Advocate strongly for additional federal relief to offset the pandemic's economic impacts to Port, tenants, vendors and related industries*
 - *Monitor relevant federal agency budget impacts, and advocate for appropriate backfills*
- **Health & Safety Policies:**
 - *Advocate for comprehensive federal guidance and standards for air and cruise passenger safety*
 - *Support global agreements on testing to re-open international travel*



Top Port Priorities – *Italics represent new items for 2021*

Priority Agenda Items – Port-wide: General

- **Welcoming and Competitive Immigration & Trade Policies:**
 - Immigration policies that ensure Port success as well as welcoming of local immigrants and refugees
 - *Rescind Executive Orders that create excessive barriers*
 - Productive, strategic engagement on trade
 - *Rescind tariffs on trading partner allies like Canada, Mexico and the EU*
- **Comprehensive Climate Policies**
 - Support comprehensive proposals for sector-specific and economy-wide solutions to address the climate crisis and put the United States on the path to a clean and prosperous economy

Top Port Priorities – *Italics represent new items for 2021*

Priority Agenda Items – Aviation

- **Sufficient Infrastructure Funding and Flexibility:**
 - Raise the federal PFC cap, maintaining Commission oversight
- **Efficient and Safe Airport Operations:**
 - Partner with CBP to ensure success of the IAF
 - *Partner with TSA & CBP to successfully and safely welcome back travelers*
- **Increased Airport Community Focus:**
 - FAA Reauthorization priorities identified by StART
 - StART federal priorities: Smith ultra-fine particulates bill, Lynch aircraft expert consensus act, Smith secondary noise mitigation investments bill, alternatives to commercial airplane travel, *increased AIP noise program funding, aircraft & fuel modernization incentives, supersonic & electric aircraft regulation.*
- **Expanded Sustainable Aviation Fuels Deployment:**
 - Use of airport & federal grant revenue for benefits of fuel switching
 - Federal incentives for research, as well as feedstock processing and fuel production facilities
 - *SAF blender's credit (\$2/gallon)*



Top Port Priorities – *Italics represent new items for 2021*

Priority Agenda Items – Maritime

- **Harbor Maintenance Tax (HMT) Reform:**
 - Reform the HMT to not disadvantage US ports and provide greater equity for donor ports
 - Secure the “donor port” HMT rebate program
- **Fishing Fleet Modernization:**
 - Reform NOAA’s Fisheries Finance Program (FFP) for fishing vessels
 - Increase the FFP loan authority
- **Seattle and Tacoma Harbor Deepening:**
 - Obtain funding for design for deepening federal channels serving T-18, T-30 and T-5 in Seattle and support Tacoma feasibility study.
- ***West Seattle Bridge:***
 - *Support federal funding for the West Seattle Bridge*



Top Port Priorities – *Italics represent new items for 2021*

Priority Agenda Items – Maritime (cont'd)

- **Hiram M. Chittenden Locks Funding:**
 - Advocate for funding for continued federal operation and maintenance of the locks
- **National Freight Policy and Funding:**
 - Support funding for a strengthened national multimodal freight strategy and related grant programs, including TIGER/BUILD. Support sustainable revenue source for freight.
- **Safe and Efficient Cargo *and Passenger* Screening:**
 - Advocate for adequate CBP staffing levels
 - Ensure the federal responsibility for funding CBP services, equipment and facility development
- **Puget Sound Restoration:**
 - Support federal resources for Puget Sound restoration
 - Regulatory reform to speed habitat site development
 - Support federal engagement in orca recovery



Top Port Priorities – *Italics represent new items for 2021*

Additional Priority Issue Areas: Port-wide

- **COVID**

- *Support policies, programs and funding to rebuild the U.S. small business sector*
- *Provide clear updates on how current relief is being spent and benefitting region*
- *Play a supportive role in vaccine distribution, where possible*

- **Welcoming and Competitive Immigration & Trade Policies:**

- Progressive, balanced trade policies
- Permanent protections for DACA-eligible residents
- Standardized federal regulations on biometric technology/data

- **Comprehensive Climate Policies**

- *Investments in renewable energy and low-carbon transportation modes*
- *Rescind Trump Administration executive actions on environmental policy that weaken the nation's effort on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, deprioritize climate change impacts, put commercial fisheries at risk, limit the full integrity of NEPA reviews, and increase community exposure to air and water pollutants.*



Support and Engage – *Italics represent new items for 2021*

Additional Priority Issue Areas: Port-wide (con't.)

- **Sufficient Infrastructure Funding and Flexibility:**
 - Increased aviation, maritime and freight-mobility funding through appropriations or comprehensive investment legislation
- **Increased Community Focus:**
 - Improve human trafficking prevention and intervention efforts
 - *Advocate for comprehensive federal policing reforms*
 - *Rescind Executive Orders that create excessive barriers to racial bias trainings and that unfairly restrict certain municipalities from federal funding*



Support and Engage – *Italics represent new items for 2021*

Additional Priority Issue Areas: Aviation

- **Sufficient Infrastructure Funding and Flexibility:**
 - Federal and Congressional support for current and future airport capital projects
- **Efficient and Safe Airport Operations:**
 - CBP staffing appropriations and TSA law enforcement grant funding/*flexibility*
 - Increased Seattle-based flights into DCA
 - Increased funding for UAS detection/mitigation;
increased local law enforcement authority
 - Expedited airfield management program deployment
- **Increased Community Focus:**
 - Alternatives to fluorinated fire-fighting foams
 - *Federal programs to support indoor air quality near airports, particularly for large facilities with potentially vulnerable populations*
- **Expanded Sustainable Aviation Fuels Deployment:**
 - Leverage the U.S. Department of Defense as a key partner in sustainable aviation fuels



Support and Engage – *Italics represent new items for 2021*

Additional Priority Issue Areas: Maritime

- **Diesel Emissions Reductions, DERA and alternative fuels:**
 - Support funding for the EPA DERA program, programs that support alternative fuel use *and other emissions reduction strategies* at seaports and Coast Guard facilities
- **Pebble Mine at Bristol Bay and Offshore Drilling:**
 - Oppose mining activity in the Bristol Bay watershed that put fisheries at risk
 - Oppose offshore oil and gas drilling in state and federal waters off the WA coast
- **Jones Act:**
 - Support the Jones Act with limited flexibility to grant waivers
- **Federal Permitting:**
 - *Support federal regulatory funding and uniformity in application of regulations nationwide*
 - *Oppose changes that jeopardize the Port's economic, environmental and social missions*



Support and Engage – Italics represent new items for 2021

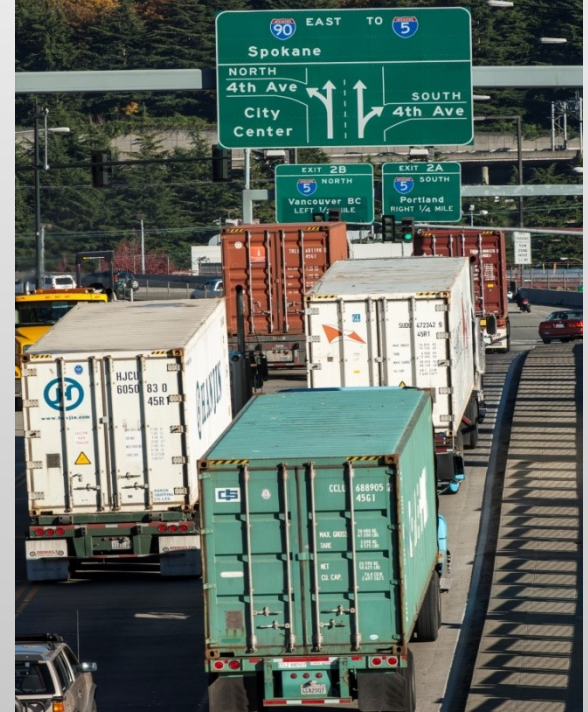
Additional Issues to Monitor

Port-wide

- **Welcoming and Competitive Immigration & Trade Policies:**
 - Real ID implementation
 - Foreign tourism promotion
- **Community Focus:**
 - Environmental, economic & workforce development funding & support
 - Local government priorities, such as housing and transportation

Aviation

- **Efficient and Safe Airport Operations:**
 - PreCheck expansion and TSA innovation
 - Air Traffic Control system-wide investments
 - FAA Safety Management Systems improvement
 - Appropriate Urban Air Mobility policy and regulation
 - TSA reimbursements to airports for checkpoint-area janitorial services



Monitor – *Italics represent new items for 2021*

Next Steps

- Today – Commission briefing in public session
- Now through January 12, 2021 – Incorporate feedback received
- January 12, 2021 – Ask Commission for adoption in public session
- February 2021 – Meetings with Congressional offices to distribute agenda and share priorities

Questions?