

Item No. 11a
Meeting Date: November 16, 2021

Draft 2022 State Legislative Agenda

Briefing to the Port of Seattle Commission
November 16, 2021

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Overview

- Olympia preview – what to expect from 2022 Session
 - Short session, supplemental budget year and overall budget picture
 - Major issues that are expected
 - Virtual or hybrid session?
- Agenda development process
 - Evaluate progress made last session
 - Incorporate ongoing work and core priorities
- Next steps
 - Incorporate additional Commission feedback between now and 12/7
 - Seek Commission adoption of final agenda in 12/7



Priority Agenda Items

Invest in essential workforces: Essential activities that kept the economy running early in the pandemic included maritime and freight operations, air cargo and more. The Port seeks continuing state partnership on workforce development in port-related industries, including through robust support for pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs.

Support for a Transportation Revenue Package: Building infrastructure and investing in moving people and freight supports economic activity and puts people back to work. Key transportation priorities:

- West Seattle Bridge partnership
- Puget Sound Gateway program
- Robust investment in transit including incentives for zero-emission transit vehicles
- Strategies that promote low carbon approaches to regional transportation



Progressive climate action: Enactment of progressive climate policies spurs investment in new technologies and generates demand for a newly skilled workforce, while reducing emissions and improving environmental justice action. With the Clean Fuels Program and Climate Commitment Act in place, the state should pursue partnership with ports on decarbonization of heavy transportation from maritime to aviation sectors, including a focus shorepower, on-dock cargo equipment, and working toward zero emission trucking.

Priority Agenda Items - continued

Equity and Community focus: The onset of the pandemic was accompanied by a nationwide push to address historic inequities and systemic racism. The Port supports state leadership in addressing social injustice, and specifically supports action in the following areas:

Reduced local match for community improvements: The Port supports reducing the required local match that non-profit entities must provide in order to receive small-dollar grants for public improvement projects.

Public contracting and grantmaking: The Port's Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion is eager to work with our community to increase the share of grants and contracts that go to underserved populations. Small legislative changes under discussion may help us meet our goals.

Police reform and accountability: The Port supports continued work to improve policing while protecting public safety. Will monitor and engage to ensure that updates to reforms passed in 2021 align with values that emerged from our own policing assessment.



Priority Issue Areas – Quality Jobs and Small Business (page 1)

Quality Jobs: Support proposals that are consistent with the Port's focus on bringing quality, sustainable jobs to the region, including through proposals that:

- Ports engaging in **workforce training**
- **Career-connected learning** efforts at the state
- **Strengthen and reform pre-apprentice and apprenticeship** programs
- Responsible enforcement of **labor standards**
- Continue state partnership on **tourism promotion**
- Support **rural economic development**



Priority Issue Areas – Quality Jobs and Small Business (Page 2)

Small Business: Reduce barriers and provide equity in the workplace; promote inclusion of small businesses, including disadvantaged, minority, and women owned business enterprises (SMWBEs)

- Continued support for **repeal of Initiative 200**
- **Contracting flexibility** for public owners
- SMWBEs compete for **small works projects**
- Small business **capacity building and SMWBEs** compete in the government marketplace



Priority Issue Areas – Transportation and Competitiveness (page 1)

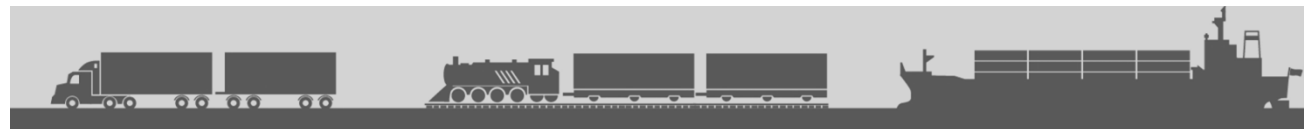
Transportation revenue package development: The Port of Seattle supports enactment of a long-term transportation revenue package to support trade and Washington’s international gateway, stimulate job growth, and support economic recovery. Transportation investment must be undertaken in a way that does not disproportionately impact disadvantaged communities.

Transportation package revenue raisers:

- Price on carbon – maintain distribution outlined in Climate Commitment Act
- Road usage charge – future sustainable funding source for transportation?
- Gas tax increase – index to inflation?

Transportation package investments:

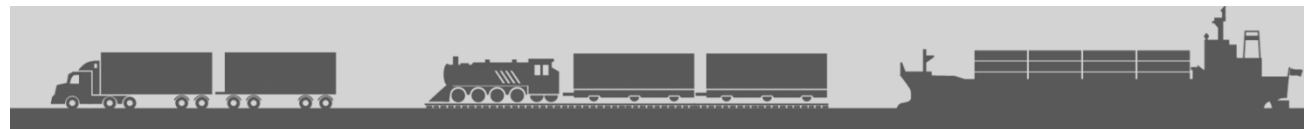
- West Seattle Bridge.
- Continue support for critical freight routes
- Invest in transit
- Port-specific grant program
- Reduce conflict between passengers and freight



Priority Issue Areas – Transportation and Competitiveness (page 2)

General transportation priorities (not specific to revenue package development):

- Continued funding of **state transportation projects that are critical to Port of Seattle and Northwest Seaport Alliance** operations
- Identify funding for Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSMO) improvements identified in the SR 518 Corridor Planning Study, May 2020
- Speed the movement of freight and passengers from **origin to destination through seaport and airport** facilities
- Improve the **trade competitiveness** of Washington state and our gateway.
- Allow for **creative approaches to infrastructure** development including **potential new revenue mechanisms**
- Affirm the authority of the Port Commission to **control access to port facilities** by all transportation modes



Priority Issue Areas – Transportation and Competitiveness (page 3)

General transportation priorities – continued:

- Potential increase in **passenger vessel** routes; other mobility options that **ease access to port facilities**.
- Promote **resilience in the transportation network**, including on issues of climate resilience.
- Support **coordinated approach to regional transportation planning, including aviation planning**, to reflect the unprecedented growth in the region



Priority Issue Areas – Transportation and Competitiveness (page 4)

Land use priorities: Continue to advocate on land use issues facing Washington ports, with a specific focus on zoning issues that may affect port competitiveness. This may include:

- Proposals that reflect the “Guiding Principles: Stewardship, Enhancement, and Protection of Maritime and Manufacturing Lands” document that was adopted by the Northwest Seaport Alliance on November 1, 2016;
- Proposals that reflect the Port's commitment to environmental sustainability and that manufacturing and industrial centers are resource lands of statewide economic significance that are irreplaceable; and
- Proposals that recognize the role industrial resource lands play in global port competitiveness and in supporting job retention in diverse economic sectors
- Proposals that seek to strengthen the Container Ports Element of the Growth Management Act
- Recommendations related to the Department of Commerce’s Interbay Public Development Advisory Committee; and
- Any legislative changes that may impact the efficient functioning of statewide essential public facilities.



Priority Issue Areas – Energy and Environment (page 1)

Support environmental cleanup programs and state-level policies that promote the adoption and implementation of clean energy sources, including:

- Low- and zero-carbon fuels for transportation, low or zero emission transit options, and otherwise support **the continued reduction in the cost of low- and zero-carbon energy sources** to consumers in the state
- **Puget Sound health** overall, including underwater noise partnership
- Streamlining Department of Ecology’s **wetland mitigation banking** program
- Model Toxics Control Act (**MTCA**) funding and partnerships
- Funding for the state’s **Recreation and Conservation Office**, partnerships and funding on environmental cleanup
- Clean energy technology, **building energy efficiency**, statewide goals for clean power



Priority Issue Areas – Energy and Environment (page 2)

- State partnership with the Port on **sustainable aviation fuels**
- Climate change **resilience**, including focus on resilience in transportation network
- Reduce **carbon and air pollution emissions for passengers and employees** traveling to and from Port facilities
- Policies advanced as part of the **Washington Maritime BLUE: 2050 initiative**



Priority Issue Areas – Tax, Governance, Technology, and more

- **Tax:** Support tax policies at the state level that support the **economic health of port-related businesses and activities**, including:
 - Supports those communities that house the **warehousing and distribution infrastructure** necessary to support the Port of Seattle, the Northwest Seaport Alliance, and its partners
 - Policies that **reduce the cost of manufacturing activities** that support port-related businesses
- **Governance:** Oppose legislation that would create an imbalance of representatives between the two homeports in their governing of the Northwest Seaport Alliance
- **Cybersecurity:** Vulnerability of public governments that manage **critical infrastructure**.
- **Broadband:** Bridge the **digital divide**
- **Technology:** Monitor **biometric technology** proposals.
- **Human trafficking:** Continued partnership with state and local governments to **combat human trafficking**



Next Steps

- Today – Commission briefing in public session
- Now through December 7, 2021 – Incorporate additional feedback received
- December 7, 2021 – Seek Commission adoption in public session
- December 2021– Distribute agenda to key legislators; continue staff and elected level meetings with legislators
- January 10, 2022 – First day of 2022 state legislative session