



COMMISSION
AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Item No. 11a

BRIEFING ITEM

Date of Meeting February 8, 2022

DATE: January 19, 2022

TO: Stephen P. Metruck, Executive Director

FROM: Sabrina Bolieu, Regional Government Relations Manager, External Relations
Dave Kaplan, Local Government Relations Manager, External Relations
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SUBJECT: Briefing on 2022 Local, Regional and Community Engagement Policy Priorities and Partnerships

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Port of Seattle government relations staff worked with Commissioners, executive team members, internal subject matter experts, and external stakeholders to develop local, regional and community engagement policy priorities and partnerships to guide Port advocacy efforts to fulfill our mission to promote economic opportunities and quality of life in the region by advancing trade, travel, commerce and job creation in an equitable, accountable and environmentally responsible manner.

Throughout 2021, staff worked to execute the 2021 regional and local policy priorities. Progress was made on many of the priorities, and current and future priorities will continue to be pursued over the next several years.

2022 LOCAL AND REGIONAL POLICY PRIORITIES

Top Priorities

- COVID-19 Recovery
- Equitable Economic Recovery
- Equity and Inclusion
- Sustainable Airport Master Plan (SAMP) Near-Term Projects
- Climate, MCAAP, Energy, and Sustainability
- Regional Mobility
- 38 Cities Outreach and Engagement

Portwide/Regional Issues

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- **COVID-19 Recovery:** Partner with local and regional agencies on initiatives that acknowledge the challenging budget realities facing all levels of government, while ensuring that economic recovery is prioritized and is undertaken in a manner that is equitable and inclusive. Due to historic and current day discriminatory practices, communities of color and other marginalized communities tend to experience disproportionate harms and impact throughout all phases of a large-scale public crisis or disaster. Inequities arise in all crisis stages from preparedness to immediate response to longer-term recovery. Recognizing these inequities, crisis response should “...account for the needs of all people. Emergency response and relief practices must benefit everyone while also accounting for the specific needs of vulnerable populations.” (Port of Seattle Motion 2020-06)

- **Equitable Economic Recovery:** Support legislative or regulatory policies by King County cities and King County that leverage the Port’s efforts to promote economic recovery and healthy, livable communities. Continue to integrate values of equity and inclusion in economic recovery efforts. Investing in relief is critical to the Port being able to provide essential services and maintain our sea and air gateways that are crucial to our region’s supply chain. Recovery efforts include initiatives to support local and small businesses, implement tourism or city specific promotion campaigns, stimulate local economic activity, advance real estate development and business attraction initiatives in addition to the Port’s capital projects investments. Advocate for cities’ participation with the Trusted Community Partnership Network in funding navigators to equitably help connect small, women-owned, and minority-owned businesses with the resources they need.

- **Equity and Inclusion:** Collaborate with King County cities and King County to rebuild an inclusive economy where opportunity and prosperity are widely shared regardless of race, gender, ethnicity or socio-economic status. Advance the Duwamish Valley community partnership, support equitable economic development through the South King County Community Impact Fund and the Opportunity Youth Initiative, and invest in the Port’s Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion and Workforce Development’s Strategic Plan. Bring together other local government partners to promote immigration policies that ensure the Port, our partners and our customers have the workforce to succeed, and that new residents, refugees, and visitors feel fully welcomed.

- **Sustainable Airport Master Plan (SAMP) Near-Term Projects (NTP):** Inform and engage elected officials, public agencies, interested communities and other stakeholders on the 2022 release of the draft federal and state environmental review documents for the proposed SAMP Near-Term Projects (NTP) to address passenger and cargo demand, FAA standards, airfield efficiency, and the need for additional fuel storage. Promote the SAMP, together with other portwide initiatives, as key to meeting current needs and supporting future regional growth and economic opportunities to neighboring airport communities and across the region.

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- **Climate, Maritime Climate and Air Action Plan (MCAAP), Energy and Sustainability:** Participate in local and regional partnerships to support policy at the regional, State and Federal level that relates to the Port’s sustainability goals, including implementing the Clean Fuel Standard, the use of Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) and discontinuation of fossil natural gas use in waterfront buildings and facilities, and scaling sustainable aviation and maritime fuels. With an eye toward environmental justice, support legislative or regulatory policies by King County cities and King County that align with the Port’s efforts to reduce carbon emissions, promote energy-efficient operation of transportation infrastructure, buildings, and encourage renewable energy generation. Continue to partner locally and regionally to understand and develop strategies for Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure. Continue to partner with the City of Seattle on waterfront electrification and take steps with regional partners to capture state and federal funding that supports clean energy infrastructure investments and other projects that advance the Port’s climate and sustainability efforts. Continue to partner with transit agencies to enhance strategies to increase ridership to SEA, to help reduce Single Occupancy Vehicle (SOV) emissions. Monitor and evaluate potential actions at King County, with K4C and in King County cities that would impact diversified or transitional fuel source usage at Port facilities.

Implement the near-term actions in the MCAAP: Work with local and regional partners to inform and engage elected officials, public agencies, industry, NGOs, communities, and other stakeholders on near-term MCAAP projects and priority actions needed to achieve the Port’s 2030 greenhouse gas reduction targets and uphold its commitments to equity and environmental justice. Promote the MCAAP’s projects, together with other portwide initiatives, as key to meeting current needs and supporting future regional growth, supporting the equitable transition to zero-emission maritime energy sources, and economic opportunities to neighboring communities in Seattle and King County. Strive to take a coordinated, equitable and ambitious regional approach to address climate change, air quality and lead a clean energy transition across the region.

- **Regional Mobility:** Actively partner with relevant public transportation agencies and stakeholders on critical infrastructure projects and policies throughout the region and state, with focus on access to port facilities, both cargo and passenger, key freight corridors, and equitable regional mobility and funding strategies. Continue engagement on access to the airport and build on recommendations related to the Ground Transportation Access Plan goals.

Mobility Projects: Ensure the city of Seattle incorporates maritime and industrial needs, including workforce development strategies, as committed in the City/Port West Seattle Bridge Partnering MOU to repair and reopen the two West Seattle bridges. Engage with public transit agencies on SEA Airport transit access and extending Link light rail to West Seattle and Ballard while protecting port operations, industrial lands and freight mobility, as well as growing regional capacity. Collaborate with water taxi operators to identify opportunities for synergies with Port assets. Focus on the timely and on-budget

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delivery of partners' priority projects including Puget Sound Gateway/SR 509, improved multimodal access to the airport, the Safe & Swift Corridors, East Marginal Way Improvements, WaterfrontSeattle, and the Interbay corridor. Build support for WSDOT implementing findings from the SR518 corridor study (2019-20).

Mobility Policy and Planning: Work with regional partners, stakeholders, and other public agencies to improve state and local funding and to maximize the impact of federal funds applied to our region. In particular, work strategically to invest grants received from the bipartisan infrastructure legislation passed by Congress; these dollars can be used not only for freight mobility and supply chain congestion improvements but also sustainable transportation options and mobility (opportunities for mode shifts, biking and walking facilities, and last/first mile connections). Adjust and account for implications to transportation projects and services of revenue stream disruption from COVID impacts to commercial parking tax, gas tax, sales tax and street use. Advocate for freight mobility and port passenger access in PSRC's Regional Transportation Plan and Seattle's multimodal Comprehensive Transportation Plan.

- **Industrial Lands:** Support local policies and plans that are durable and resistant to piecemeal zoning and development changes; stimulate new compatible investment in industrial lands; continue to make public investments that support Manufacturing and Industrial Centers; and that strengthen zoning to ensure that noncompatible land uses and activities are not located next to industrial lands. Support local land use and transportation policies, as well as mechanisms that maintain or enhance maritime and manufacturing lands, and the critical road and rail infrastructure required for freight mobility. Advocate strongly for legislative and regulatory decisions that preserve industrial lands, enhance freight mobility, allow for the anticipated development of marine cargo, industrial, and transportation facilities and support the growth of related living wage jobs.
- **Resiliency and Emergency Preparedness:** Recognizing the Port's unique, critical infrastructure, and the need to prepare and respond to natural and man-made disasters, continue to strengthen the Port's partnerships with local and regional agencies for mutual aid, planning, coordination, exercises, and communication. In addition, facilitate collaboration with local jurisdictions on *climate* resiliency, including Seattle City Light, the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C) and the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC). As outlined in Recommendations No. 20 and 21 in the Port's Policing and Civil Rights Task Force Report (2021), the Port should continue to take the lead on updating Mutual Aid agreements to drive best practices regionally, and align with the new state policing laws, as well as actively engage in after-action assessments to track all resulting recommendations.
- **Tribal Relations:** Continue efforts to maintain and strengthen relationships with regional treaty tribes, to support shared environmental and economic development goals as well as Port growth. Seek opportunities to expand partnerships and chances for new collaborative efforts. Establish improved regularity with government-to-government meetings with regional treaty

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tribes and engagement through new Memorandum of Agreements. Promote internal Port staff education efforts to better acknowledge current tribal geo-political tensions as it relates to long term and short-term tribal engagement.

- **Workforce Development:** Support regional workforce development and industry-connected experience that prepares students for a full range of entry points into the workforce, providing a talent pipeline for key Port-related industries (aviation, maritime, construction trades, and green jobs). Use priority hire, apprenticeship utilization, and related Port programs and policies to ensure that underrepresented and impacted communities benefit when the Port is constructing or modernizing facilities. Advance equity within Port workforce programs and regional workforce development initiatives. Work with partners to support job seekers, airport employees and employers, continue to uplift the new Port-City of Seattle partnership on the expansion of the Opportunity Youth Initiative and invest in Duwamish River Green Jobs.

Maritime/Seattle

- **Cruise 22:** Support the operations team in off-season cruise opportunities and the traditional 2022 cruise season as public health agencies continue to adapt and respond to COVID-19 policies and vaccine mandate protocols. Continue close coordination with public health agencies, local governments, and other cruise ports to ensure best practices for adequate vaccine distribution, testing, and safety for the cruise work force, cruise visitors, and the community at-large.

- **Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Project Implementation:** engage local jurisdictions and other partners in securing and expanding support for the Maritime and Economic Development projects and initiatives contained in the Port's five-year Capital Improvement Plan. Support planning efforts regarding future uses at Terminal 46 (T46) in partnership with The Northwest Seaport Alliance and Pier 46 (the north end of T46). Continue to educate and engage local elected officials, public agencies, tribal governments, and near-port communities on the economic benefits of waterfront capital projects while respecting community development values. Work closely with the City of Seattle and other local, state and federal agencies and tribal governments, to ensure all necessary permitting, including environmental mitigation, and other administrative approvals for these projects.

- **Terminal 5 Modernization Project:** In coordination with The Northwest Seaport Alliance, continue to educate and engage elected officials, public agencies and all relevant stakeholders on the environmental highlights and economic benefits of the project. As operations are underway with the West Seattle high bridge still closed, we will continue to closely engage with relevant local transportation agencies to ensure minimal traffic impacts and consistent worker and freight access to the facility. We will also continue to monitor any remaining permitting needs from the City of Seattle and engage as needed.

- **Truck Parking:** In support of The Northwest Seaport Alliance, identify overnight drayage truck parking opportunities to alleviate freight impacts on City streets and residential areas.

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Exploration of parking locations include Port-owned properties and City of Seattle properties located near active terminals, a key tenant of the WSB MOU, authorized by the Commission in 2021. As NWSA finalizes relevant capital plans, we will support the coordination of those efforts with the City.

- **Seattle Waterfront Clean Energy Strategy:** In coordination with Maritime Environmental, monitor the implementation of the joint Port, City, and NWSA partnership towards modernizing the electrical power distribution grid to provide clean energy to Seattle’s working waterfront to increase regional competitiveness, create jobs, improve community health, and confront climate change, focusing on shore power capital improvement at Pier 66.
- **Maritime Innovation Center:** Continue to build support for development of the Maritime Innovation Center at Fisherman’s Terminal, a restored and modernized “living building” that will serve as a key driver in helping the Puget Sound region’s maritime industry adopt advanced technologies and stimulate innovative entrepreneurship. Collaborate with Maritime Blue on the Blue Innovation Accelerator Program to help local companies grow and leverage technology and innovation resources in the region.
- **Safe & Swift:** Continue building on four years of coordination with the City of Seattle supporting Safe & Swift Corridors while identifying emerging new priorities. This includes Heavy Haul Network improvements, especially on East Marginal Way; and investing \$5 million in signal coordination to Waterfront Access near the Climate Pledge Arena redevelopment and Spokane St Corridor mobility. Encourage strong collaboration for Port/City transportation priorities, specifically protection of freight lands and corridors, completion of relevant projects, and enhancement or mitigation of Port properties.
- **Sound Transit 3 West Seattle and Ballard Extensions:** Advocate for alignments that have minimal impacts on manufacturing and industrial center operations and Port/NWSA properties and operations, through comment on the Draft EIS and other opportunities. Participate with other partners in station area planning. Engage relevant City of Seattle departments throughout all stages of project development and implementation. Continue to work with unified coalition of maritime and industrial stakeholders to promote the Port’s preferred ST3 alignments.
- **Natural Resources Stewardship:** Keep elected officials updated and informed regarding the Port’s commitment to environmental stewardship, including habitat restoration and public shoreline access efforts at Duwamish River People’s Park and Shoreline Habitat Area, h̄ap̄us Village Park & Shoreline HabitatPark, S’baq’wah Park, and elsewhere in the Duwamish Estuary and Elliott Bay, as well as at T25 and the fishing pier at T86. Continue to promote Salmon Safe and Green Marine certifications, green stormwater infrastructure, “blue carbon” research, kelp conservation, floating wetland islands research, and water quality programs. Continue to coordinate with partners and regulatory agencies to plan and implement soil and sediment cleanup activities in and around the Port.

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Aviation/Airport Communities

- **Customer Experience Enhancement Projects:** Keep all SEA stakeholders aware of the many non-SAMP NTP customer experience enhancement projects happening at the airport, including: improvements to the airport drives, such as the Widen Arrivals Drive project; the Alaska Airlines area of the North Main Terminal; Central Terminal renovation; the C1 Building Airport Dining, Retail, and Lounge space; the Concourse A lounges; Main Terminal optimization, for better passenger flow; South Satellite Renovation and Renewal; baggage optimization; the renewal and replacement of restrooms throughout the terminal; the addition of meditation and sensory rooms; phased implementation of new signage throughout SEA; and enhanced landscaping around the airport property.

- **Equitable Economic Development:** Encourage airport-area cities to implement workforce development, small business development, and diversity in contracting initiatives that support workers of color, immigrant and refugee community members, and Women Minority Business Enterprises (WMBE). Advocate for participation in the Trusted Community Partnership Network, and in soliciting South King County based applications for the South King County Community Impact Fund's Economic Recovery Program. Advance the partnership with Highline College's Small Business Development Center and Startzone to support small business recovery and resiliency. Ensure that all relevant information is provided to Port communities in the languages spoken by the largest immigrant and refugee communities.

- **Highline Forum, Soundside Alliance, and SEA Stakeholder Advisory Round Table (StART):** Demonstrate Port leadership in South King County community issues through engagement with elected officials at the Highline Forum and in the Soundside Alliance. Help foster respectful, meaningful and collaborative opportunities for jurisdictional collaboration through the SEA Stakeholder Advisory Round Table (StART) to address airport community concerns in coordination with the FAA and the air carriers.

- **Natural Resources Stewardship:** Keep elected officials updated and informed regarding the Port's commitment to environmental stewardship, including the South King County Community Impact Fund's Environment and Sustainability Grant Program, Flight Corridor Safety Program implementation, Salmon Safe certification, the land stewardship plan, water quality programs, and wildlife management programs such as honeybee boxes and raptor relocation.

- **Noise Monitoring and Mitigation Work:** Solicit locations for the siting of the Port's Temporary Noise Monitor and collect and share the data with the local jurisdiction. Share information regarding the Port's expedited Part 150 Noise Mitigation work, including: the potential buyout of a few properties in the 3rd Runway south Approach Transition Zone (ATZ); continued design and construction of insulation work on the remaining eligible homes, apartments, and condominiums within the 65 DNL Noise Remedy Boundary; and initiation of design work for eligible houses of worship. In 2023, develop a program to identify and evaluate single-family homes that have failed products or have been previously insulated prior to 1993 and within the

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current 65 DNL Noise Remedy Boundary, where the insulation packages no longer provide established noise reduction standards. Continue the efforts through StART at reducing nighttime noise through the Late Night Noise Limitation Program and continue conversations with air carriers utilizing the late-night hours to make scheduling or equipment changes to lessen their noise impacts. Continue monitoring the use of the 3rd runway as outline in the FAA Letter of Agreement to limit the use of 16R/34L between the hours of 12pm and 5am.

- **City of SeaTac Interlocal Agreement:** Continue working collaboratively with the City of SeaTac, daily and through the Joint Advisory Committee (JAC), to implement the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) concerning issues such as planning, land use and zoning, transportation, surface water management, critical environmental areas, issues related to North SeaTac Park, economic development, and public safety.

- **South King County Community Impact Fund:** Established by the Port Commission in 2018, the South King County Community Impact Fund designates \$10M for near-airport communities to address airport communities' COVID 19 economic recovery efforts, environmental health and sustainability. Informed by multicultural engagement and application of the Port's Equity Index, the funding structure, criteria, and strategies for equitable access supports three funding approaches: support for Women and Minority Business Enterprises (WMBE); the Economic Recovery and Workforce Development Grant Program; and the Environment and Sustainability Grant Program. The Port hopes to distribute up to \$2.5 million in funding in 2022. Additionally, a Port state legislative policy priority is to change the required environmental grant match within the state statute from 3:1 to 2:1.

Engagement and Partnership Priorities

- **38 Cities:** Engage the "38 cities" in King County, sharing updated information regarding Port investments and projects, as well as the Port's economic engine role for the region. Offer opportunities for the newly elected Mayors and Councilmembers in the 38 cities to learn more about Port operations and community investments, through meetings with Commissioners, tours of Port facilities, and updates on key projects currently underway, coordination on anti-human trafficking efforts, implementation of the HEAL Act, and other areas of mutual interest. Focus areas include:

- **Airport Communities:** Work in coordination with our environmental staff to keep the Airport Communities apprised of all updated information concerning the Sustainable Airport Master Plan (SAMP) Near-Term Projects environmental review to meet passenger and cargo demand, continued adherence to FAA standards, improve airfield efficiency, and fuel storage that will support the Port's Sustainable Aviation Fuel Initiative. Continue noise program community engagement to accelerate implementation of residential and school sound insulation. Partner with the local communities on siting of a temporary noise monitor.

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Eastside Communities: Partner with Eastside Cities to address the region’s aviation and maritime needs. Enhance community and government engagement in East King County to develop partnerships and collaborative strategies on regional policy issues and support for portwide initiatives. Continue engagement with Eastside communities on business access to the airport and build on recommendations related to the Ground Transportation Access Plan goals.

Vashon Island: Monitor use of the temporary portable noise monitor on Vashon Island.

Seattle: Continue to work with the City of Seattle and key community stakeholders on issues impacting Port properties and operations including, but not limited to the following:

Beacon Hill: Continue to partner and engage with the Beacon Hill community equitably, to address issues of concern regarding the effects of Port operations.

Duwamish Valley: Address long-standing issues related to equity by maintaining the Port’s Duwamish Valley Benefits Commitment to the Port’s Duwamish Valley Community Equity Program with community partners. Continue to work with inter-governmental team and explore partnerships with the City of Seattle, Puget Sound Clean Air Agency and others to leverage efforts in the Duwamish Valley.

Magnolia/Interbay/Ballard: Continue to work with the City of Seattle on its effort to find transportation solutions related to the Ballard/Interbay Regional Transportation corridor. Continue to advocate for freight mobility through the corridor and transportation solutions to minimize or mitigate impacts to Port property and operations, including impacts to Terminal 91 and Fishermen’s Terminal.

Pioneer Square and International District: Continue to educate and work with the Pioneer Square and International District neighborhoods regarding Port waterfront projects and activities.

Ongoing Local and Regional Priorities

The following items are issue areas of focus for the local team on an annual basis. While details within each of these topics may shift year to year, they consistently remain an important component of our annual workplan.

- **Economic Development Grant Programs:** Work with the Economic Development Division to promote statewide economic development through partnerships with cities, ports and nonprofit agencies, including the Port’s Economic Development Partnership Grant and the Tourism Grant programs. Support implementation of Tourism Recovery initiative in partnership with the Washington Tourism Alliance.

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- **Orca Recovery:** In collaboration with The Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA), identify priority areas for the Port and NWSA that support Orca recovery, such as efforts to reduce noise impacts on Southern Resident Orcas through the Quiet Sound program, as well as kelp and shellfish habitat enhancement by the Port.

- **Seattle Aquarium:** We will be collaborating with the Seattle Aquarium on a number of initiatives including a Port exhibit in the new Aquarium facility, kelp research, and other maritime issues such as workforce development.

- **Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC):** Advocate for regional ports' perspectives and priorities in review of the updates to the Regional Transportation Plan and the Regional Economic Strategy, enhancing the Manufacturing and Industrial Centers, and other key PSRC efforts in 2022.

- **Green Duwamish-Watershed:** Coordinate with partners on initiatives to improve the health of the Green-Duwamish Watershed and Elliott Bay, participate in Watershed Resource Inventory Area 9 (WRIA9) meetings with stakeholders, support formation of a Duwamish Basin Steward position.

- **State and Federal Legislative Agendas:** Work in coordination and enhance activities related to implementing the Port's 2022 State and Federal legislative agendas, including: industrial lands preservation and enhancement; transportation projects and funding requests; coordination around seeking equity among transportation network providers; support legislation that would shift responsibility for funding recycling from local governments to packaging producers; efforts to study future regional air capacity and air cargo; noise insulation grant funding, and federal policy change for insulating previously insulated properties; partnerships on use of sustainable aviation fuels; ongoing support for studying the relationship between aviation activity, ultrafine particulate emissions, and air quality generally. Support changes to federal policies, regulations and programs to better align with local community priorities as identified by the Sea-Tac Stakeholder Advisory Round Table (StART). Support policy measures that equitably accelerate the transition to cleaner energy sources for maritime industry.

- **Addressing Homelessness:** Collaborate with other government entities and social service organizations on ways to support homelessness response and recovery efforts. This includes the partnership with the City of Seattle and Low Income Housing Institute on the Safe Harbor Tiny House Village in Interbay.

- **Taxes and Bonds:** Monitor proposed local measures which may increase taxes and fees to users of Port-owned facilities.

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ATTACHMENTS TO THIS BRIEFING

(1) Presentation

PREVIOUS COMMISSION ACTIONS OR BRIEFINGS

January 26, 2021 – Commission approved the 2021 Local and Regional Policy Priorities.

January 12, 2021 – Commission briefed on 2021 Local and Regional Policy Priorities

February 25, 2020 – Commission approved the 2020 Local and Regional Policy Priorities

February 11, 2020 – Commission briefed on 2020 Local and Regional Priorities.

January 22, 2019 – Commission approved 2019 Local and Regional Policy Priorities.

January 8, 2019 – Commission briefed on 2019 Local and Regional Policy Priorities.

February 27, 2018 – Commission approved 2018 Local and Regional Policy Priorities.

February 13, 2018 – Commission briefed on 2018 Local and Regional Priorities