

Jan. 31, 2017 – Port of Port Angeles Legislative Priorities

- Industrial Stormwater: Grants or loans for industrial stormwater are needed to meet unfunded mandates. The costs of regulations are making it difficult for industrial activities to continue and closures of companies in a distressed community is particularly devastating because there is not a way to make up for the lost jobs.
ASK: Access to low interest loans with preference to distressed counties.
- CERB Funding/Reform: The Governor's budget does not include CERB funding. The funding previously dedicated to CERB has been swept to MTCA. Both programs are important and serve different purposes. Both should be funded. The Port of Port Angeles supports continued funding of this program.
ASK: Please fund CERB to allow access to capital to pay for unfunded mandates.
- BNR/DNR (Board of Natural Resources/Department of Natural Resources) Issues: Sustainable Harvest, Timber Arrearages, and Marble Murrelet Conservation Strategies should be based on science and fiduciary duty to trust beneficiaries. BNR should not create more restrictive rules or limit sales due to concern over environmental lawsuits.
ASK: Funding for DNR is needed to hire a forester to perform a valid tree inventory. Without a good inventory the model is built on poor data and assumptions.
- Port Worker Training: Last year the Port of Seattle proposed expanding port district authority to contract with private non-profit entities to provide worker training programs. The Port of Port Angeles supports this effort because we believe our community would benefit if the Port of Port Angeles had more flexibility to support worker training.
ASK: Support any future legislation that promotes workforce development.
- Emergency Preparedness: The Cascadia Rising exercise provided valuable insight into our regions ability to respond to natural disasters. The Port Angeles airport was identified as one of the most critical assets for emergency response in our region. However, the majority of airport funding is provided by the FAA which does not consider emergency preparedness in their funding determinations.
ASK: Advocate for state emergency preparedness funding for our airport and coordinate with federal agencies whenever possible.
- Senate Bill 5450: Requires the state building code council to adopt rules for the use of cross-laminated timber products for residential and commercial buildings.
ASK: Support SB 5450 as well as other efforts to promote the use of CLT.

Thank you for considering the concerns of the Port of Port Angeles. If you have any questions, please contact our Executive Director, Karen Goschen at 360-452-8527 or one of our three elected commissioners:

Colleen McAleer – Board President – ColleenM@portofpa.com

Connie Beauvais – Vice President – ConnieB@portofpa.com

Steven Burke – Board Secretary – StevenB@portopa.com