



# COMPREHENSIVE SCHEME OF HARBOR IMPROVEMENTS



2018

Rev. Aug 20, 2024

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- I. INTRODUCTION 1**
  - A. Purpose of Comprehensive Plan..... 1
  - B. Mission, Vision & Goals ..... 1
  - C. Summary of Plan Goals ..... 2
  - D. Five-Year Plan Summary ..... 2
- II. HISTORY .....4**
- III. INVENTORY OF FACILITIES AND PROPERTIES ..... 8**
- IV. GOALS, OBJECTIVES, & STRATEGIES ..... 14**
  - Goal 1: Increase Economic Vitality ..... 14
  - Goal 2: Be a Visible Economic Development Leader ..... 15
  - Goal 3: Develop the Stevenson Waterfront as a Pivotal Port and Community Asset..... 16
  - Goal 4: Acquire Key Properties to Accommodate Strategic Growth ..... 17
  - Goal 5: Foster Innovation and Partnerships ..... 18
- V. FINANCIAL PLAN..... 19**
  - A. Financial Guidelines..... 19
  - B. Port District Financing ..... 22
- VI. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM .....24**
  - A. Financial Guidelines..... 24
  - B. Project Guidelines..... 24
- VII. PLAN ADOPTION AND UPDATE .....25**
  - A. Plan Adoption Process .....25
  - B. Plan Update Process..... 26

## **APPENDICES**

APPENDIX A: PORT OF SKAMANIA COUNTY – DISTRICTS MAP 27

### **ACRONYMS**

CAT	Community Action Team
CERB	Community Economic Revitalization Board
CIP	Capital Improvement Plan
EDC	Skamania County Economic Development Council
MCEDD	Mid-Columbia Economic Development District
MSA	Metropolitan Statistic Area
NSA	National Scenic Area
PWTB	Public Works Trust Board
PUD	Public Utilities District
RCO	Recreation and Conservation Office
RCW	Revised Code of Washington
RFIP	Request for Interest Proposal
WRBP	Wind River Business Park
USACE	United States Army Corps Of Engineers

# Chapter I: INTRODUCTION

---

## A. Purpose of the Comprehensive Plan

This Comprehensive Plan is intended to be a flexible guideline for the Port Commissioners to use to make sound fiscal policy and planning decisions. This plan has been prepared to meet the following Port needs:

1. Provide the community and potential customers with an overall understanding of the Port of Skamania, as well as its functions and purpose.
2. Establish short-and long-term planning and development goals and implementation strategies to retain existing and attract new businesses that diversify the economy of Skamania County.
3. Inventory existing Port facilities/properties and potential locations of interest for future Port investment in real property and/or capital infrastructure for new economic development.
4. Establish a Capital Improvement Plan that can be updated regularly.
5. Comply with state law (RCW 53.201), which requires that the Port prepare and adopt a Comprehensive Scheme of Harbor Improvements.

## B. Mission, Vision & Goals

The mission, vision and goals for the Port of Skamania County are intended to represent the current direction of the Port of Skamania County. The mission, vision, and goals reflect the input provided by the Port's Commissioners, local jurisdictions, businesses, residents, and other local economic development stakeholders during the plan development process.

### B.1 Mission

The Port's Mission is to foster job creation through industrial, commercial and recreational development that diversifies the economy and contributes to a positive quality of life for citizens of Skamania County.

### B.2 Long-Range Vision

Since its formation in 1964, it has been the Port's goal to encourage economic development and job creation. It is also important to the Port to preserve the positive quality of life historically enjoyed by area residents, recognizing that this feature is one of the Port's strongest marketing assets. The economic vitality of the Port District is integral to its success, as increased employment opportunities, a reduction in unemployment, and increases in real incomes can improve the overall quality of life for the area.

The Port focuses on industrial and commercial development. The Port induces private investment to create increased employment opportunities. The Port also seeks capital investments that leverage private investment, strategic job growth, and positive fiscal benefits to Skamania County.

The Port is a leader and a team player in local economic development efforts, promoting growth and development in a responsible, planned manner, always remembering the public's interests and needs as an integral part of its decision-making process. The Port promotes new business investments that foster a diverse and non-seasonal local economy with emphasis on seeking family-wage job opportunities.

The Port maintains the following core values:

- Work as a team,
- Manage Port resources prudently,
- Maintain a positive quality work force at the Port and in its community,
- Take actions that are in the best interests of the public and its taxpayers,
- Strive for total customer satisfaction,
- Seek innovative solutions that benefit the community through jobs and business development, and
- Communicate effectively to implement Port goals and objectives.

## **C. Summary of Plan Goals**

The Port's long-term goals are listed below and further described in Chapter 3.

**Goal 1:** Increase Economic Vitality of the Port and Skamania County

**Goal 2:** Be a Visible Economic Development Leader within Skamania County and the Region

**Goal 3:** Develop the Stevenson Waterfront as a Pivotal Port and Community Asset

**Goal 4:** Foster Innovation and Partnerships

**Goal 5:** Acquire Key Properties to Accommodate

## **D. Five-Year Plan Summary**

An aggressive focus on development of the Port's properties and implementation of the Port's Capital Improvement Program will make the Port a more active leader in the economic development of the region. Specific tasks over the next five years include:

1. Participate in local, county, regional, state, tribal, and federal land use, environmental, and transportation projects or planning efforts that may impact or influence the Port of Skamania.

2. Partner with the Economic Development Council (EDC), Skamania County, Skamania County Public Utility District (PUD), Chamber of Commerce, and others as appropriate to develop and prioritize a quarterly unified list of countywide economic development legislative priorities.
3. Continue partnerships with the City of Stevenson, Skamania County, and the Skamania EDC to review zoning, critical areas, shoreline master plan, and development alternatives for the Stevenson Waterfront.
4. Continue to partner with Skamania County, the City of North Bonneville and Skamania EDC to prepare available lands for development, including Cascades Business Park, the Lewis and Clark Business Park, and Wind River Business Park properties.
5. Communicate regularly with Port stakeholders to educate them on the Port's mission, goals, and objectives; to keep them updated on Port activities; and to seek input on key issues and initiatives as appropriate.
6. Retention of existing tenants is a priority; with a goal to create an environment that supports expansion and continued growth.
7. Cooperate with other entities for the maintenance and improvement of local infrastructure, such as water, sewer, transportation, and telecommunication facilities.
8. Continue to coordinate development efforts with existing Port tenants, other neighboring landowners, and other private stakeholders.
9. Participate in the legislative process to further the interests of the Port, its tenants, and taxpayers.
10. Support local tourism projects.
11. Continue to explore opportunities for public-private partnerships when beneficial to the Port District.
12. Identify target industries and work to provide appropriate site locations.
13. Develop and implement marketing plans to aggressively pursue new tenants for development of Port property and to fill existing facilities.
14. Recruit businesses whose wage structure is higher than the countywide average, over time achieving parity with the statewide average.
15. Recruit businesses with a preferred range of 15 to 20 jobs per acre.
16. Increase inventory of shovel-ready development sites, including a mix of site sizes by investigating industrial/commercial sites within the Port District for potential acquisition.
17. Propose appropriate uses and an implementation plan for Port properties through an inventory.

## Chapter II: HISTORY

---

When Washington became a state in 1889, it took title to all shore lands of navigable waters, except those already legally sold or granted to private owners by the federal government, to regulate navigation. In 1911, the state authorized public Port districts to own and manage state harbors and ports. Port districts gained the authority to provide space for shipping facilities, purchase and develop industrial sites, levy taxes, and sell bonds to promote and protect port commerce.

Port districts’ governing powers are vested in port commissions, consisting of three to five commissioners who may delegate day-to-day operating authority to a port manager or executive director. The Port of Skamania County has three Port Commissioners; each is elected to 6-year terms by Port district constituents to represent a specific portion of the Port district. Terms are staggered so a new commissioner is elected every two years. State law sets dollar limits for port commissioner compensation for each day spent in attendance at official meetings of the district board of port commissioners and in performance of district services.

The Port of Skamania County resulted from the 1964 merger of the Ports of North Bonneville and Wind River. Records show the merger period reflecting issues and concerns similar to those that challenge the Port today, including the need for industrial lands, the importance of attracting well-paying jobs, and promotion of high “quality of life” opportunities. The Port of Skamania County has historically focused on fostering job creation through development of its resources, support for business opportunities, collaboration and partnerships, and community relations.

The Port’s key historic accomplishments are included in **Table 1**.

**Table 1: Key Port Accomplishments**

Year(s)	Port of Skamania County Accomplishments
1960’s	<p>1964 – Ports of Wind River and North Bonneville merged to create the Port of Skamania County.</p> <p>1965 through 1981 – Port begins purchasing industrial/commercial zoned lots on the Stevenson Waterfront.</p> <p>1969 through 1974 – Industrial Development Fund was active.</p> <p>1965 through 1969 – Purchase of Grenia property, which became Beacon Rock Golf Course.</p>

<p>1970's</p>	<p>1971 – Beacon Rock public golf course at North Bonneville opened.</p> <p>1973 – Filling on Stevenson East Waterfront industrial land began.</p> <p>1975 – US Army Corps of Engineers purchased 99+ acres of port lands at North Bonneville for construction of the 2nd Bonneville Dam powerhouse.</p> <p>1976 – US Army Corps of Engineers purchased an additional 14.47 acres of Port land at North Bonneville.</p> <p>1977 – Port purchased the Carson Industrial Park.</p> <p>1978 – North Bonneville Port lands north of Highway 14 and Beacon Rock Golf Course were cleared.</p>
<p>1980's</p>	<p>1980 – A 70' x 420' general-purpose metal building was constructed at the Stevenson East Waterfront (River Point Industrial Building, 30 SE Cascade Ave).</p> <p>1980 – A 60' x 120' rigid frame building at Carson Industrial Park constructed.</p> <p>1980 – A 30' x 34' metal building on North Bonneville Lot I-4 was constructed (Skye Building, 380 Evergreen Drive).</p> <p>1982 – Skye Building on North Bonneville Lot I-4 was expanded (40' x 40').</p> <p>1982 – Stevenson tour boat dock (Stevenson Landing) at Russell Street and Cascade Avenue was constructed.</p> <p>1983 – River Point Industrial Building expansion by 147' x 90' addition, 30 SE Cascade Ave.</p> <p>1983 – Water system/building for the Carson Industrial Park was improved.</p> <p>1983 – Docking Agreement with Port of Cascade Locks for sternwheeler <i>Columbia Gorge</i>.</p> <p>1984 – Moore property purchase, now “Bob’s Beach,” 206 SW Cascade Ave, Stevenson.</p>
<p>1990's</p>	<p>1992 – Tichenor Multi-Purpose industrial 28,000 sf building at the Stevenson East Waterfront was constructed – 40 SW Cascade Ave.</p> <p>1995 – Evergreen Building in North Bonneville was constructed 9,800 sf industrial—505 Evergreen Drive.</p> <p>1995 – Two new docking dolphins were installed at Stevenson Landing to accommodate the <i>Queen of the West</i>, a 168-passenger vessel.</p> <p>1996 – Mouth of Wind River was dredged to remove debris from flood.</p> <p>1997 – “Bob’s Beach” Shoreline Restoration, Stevenson Waterfront.</p>

	<p>1997 – Stevenson Industrial Building Improvements - parking lots paving.</p> <p>1997 – Parking areas around the Tichenor/River Point buildings paved.</p> <p>1999 – Stevenson waterfront lot was purchased from Welch estate – 128 SW Cascade Ave.</p> <p>1999 – Installed Interpretive Signage on the Stevenson Waterfront.</p>
2000's	<p>2000 – Cascades Business Park (42 acres) at North Bonneville was purchased from the City of North Bonneville, 440 Fort Cascades Drive.</p> <p>2001 – North Bonneville Lewis and Clark Business Park on Evergreen Drive purchased (Lot I-3).</p> <p>2003 – Construction of 15,000 sf multi-purpose Discovery Building in the Lewis and Clark Business Park in North Bonneville (2 acres).</p> <p>2004 – Landsburg property purchase, 126 SW Cascade Ave, Stevenson Waterfront.</p> <p>2005 – Cascade Avenue Boat Launch replaced; floating docks and restroom installed (Stevenson).</p> <p>2006 – Tichenor Building mezzanine was expanded by 2,000 square feet.</p> <p>2007 – Schneider submerged property purchased, Stevenson Waterfront.</p> <p>2008 – Eignor and Solid Financial submerged properties purchased, Stevenson Waterfront.</p> <p>2008 – Port Office purchase/remodel, 212 SW Cascade Ave, Stevenson.</p> <p>2009 – Stevenson Industrial Building renamed “River Point.”</p>
2010's	<p>2010 – Parking areas of River Point/Tichenor buildings re-paving project.</p> <p>2010 – Old Saloon remodeled by new tenant.</p> <p>2010 – BNSF Railroad Property purchase, (1/2 acre) North Bonneville addition of property to 380 Evergreen Drive</p> <p>2010 – Teitzel Building completed—20,000 sf industrial - 390 Evergreen Drive, North Bonneville</p> <p>2010 – Cascades Business Park Grading and Utilities installation completed North Bonneville, 440 Fort Cascades Drive.</p> <p>2010 – Port began management of the Wind River Business Park (Stabler)</p> <p>2012 – Drilled water well at Trout Creek Field, Wind River Business Park</p>

	<p>2013 – Paved Coyote Ridge at Cascades Business Park, North Bonneville</p> <p>2014 – Partnered with City of Stevenson – Cascade Ave Improvement &amp; Quite Zone</p> <p>2015 – Replace Riverpoint Roof</p> <p>2017 - Began restoring Stevenson Shoreline – added 2.2 acres of land along the shoreline</p> <p>2017 – Purchased 21 N.E. Cascade Avenue for a public park across from Stevenson boat launch</p> <p>2018 – Completed new WRBP Water System in Stabler</p> <p>2018 – Secured USACE Easement at Cascades Business Park</p> <p>2019 – Trout Creek Field Conveyed from Skamania County (25 Acres)</p> <p>2019 - Army Corp Easement for Cascades Business Park connection road</p> <p>2019 – Port Accessory Building at 212 Cascade Ave Demolished</p> <p>2019 – Shoreline Trail Completed – October 2019</p> <p>2019 – Bob’s Beach Parking-lot Paved</p>
<p>2020’s</p>	<p>2020 – Bob’s Beach Bathrooms completed</p> <p>2020 – ALEA Grant Completed 5-year Project with Trail Benches, Picnic Tables &amp; Pathway Lights</p> <p>2021 – Stevenson Landing hydraulic gangway mechanism replaced</p> <p>2021 – Port Commission districts redistricted using 2020 Census</p> <p>2021 –Stevenson Waterfront improvements: Slides at Leavens Point, rebuilt changing rooms, additional picnic tables and park amenities.</p> <p>2021 – Ref Barn renovated and updated: New floor and roll-up doors</p> <p>2022 – HVAC units replaced in Tichenor</p> <p>2022 – Discovery I building foyer repaired – North Bonneville</p> <p>2023 – EV grant applied for and awarded for Stevenson Public Library</p> <p>2023 – Renewed/updated windows at LDB, Stevenson</p> <p>2024 – Cascade Business Park, Coyote Ridge Road installed light poles and bases.</p>

--	--

## Chapter III:

# INVENTORY OF FACILITIES AND PROPERTY

Existing facilities owned by the Port of Skamania County, along with their location and square footage:

**Table 2: Facilities Inventory**

Facility	Location	Square Feet	
<b>North Bonneville</b>	<b>Discovery Building</b>	396 Evergreen Drive N. Bonneville WA 98639	15,000
	<b>Teitzel Building</b>	390 Evergreen Drive N. Bonneville WA 98639	22,500
		Suites A/B, C/D & E/F	20,000
		Mezzanine Storage	2,500
	<b>Skye Building</b>	380 Evergreen Drive N. Bonneville WA 98639	2,620
<b>Beacon Rock Golf Course</b>	<b>Beacon Rock Golf Course</b> N. Bonneville WA 98639	8,900	
<b>Stevenson</b>	<b>Tichenor Building</b>	40 SW Cascade Ave Stevenson W A 98648	29,000
		Suites 40, 50, 60, 70, 90, 100, 110	13,000
		Suite 45, 65, 85, 105	16,000
	<b>River Point Building</b>	30 SE Cascade Ave Stevenson W A 98648	50,000

Facility	Location	Square Feet
Old Saloon Building	130 SW Cascade Ave Stevenson WA 98648	1,646
Stevenson Landing	Cascade & Russell St Stevenson WA 98648	NA
Rigging Loft Building	11 SW Cascade Ave Stevenson WA 98648	1,600
Fiber Optic Cable	Russell St & Cascade Ave Stevenson WA 98648	NA
Port Office and public restrooms (02070111710000)	212 SW Cascade Ave Stevenson WA 98648	2,168
Teo Park and Bob's Beach (Park land/cabana)	152/206 Cascade Ave Stevenson WA 98648	NA
Teo Park/Landing Restrooms	Russell St/Cascade Ave Stevenson WA 98648	--
Beverly Park	21 NE Cascade Ave Stevenson WA 98648	--
Boat Launch/Dock	SE Cascade Ave Stevenson WA 98648	--
Boat Launch Restrooms	SE Cascade Ave Stevenson WA 98648	

Existing properties owned by the Port of Skamania County along with their location, acreage and zoning:

**Table 3: Properties Inventory**

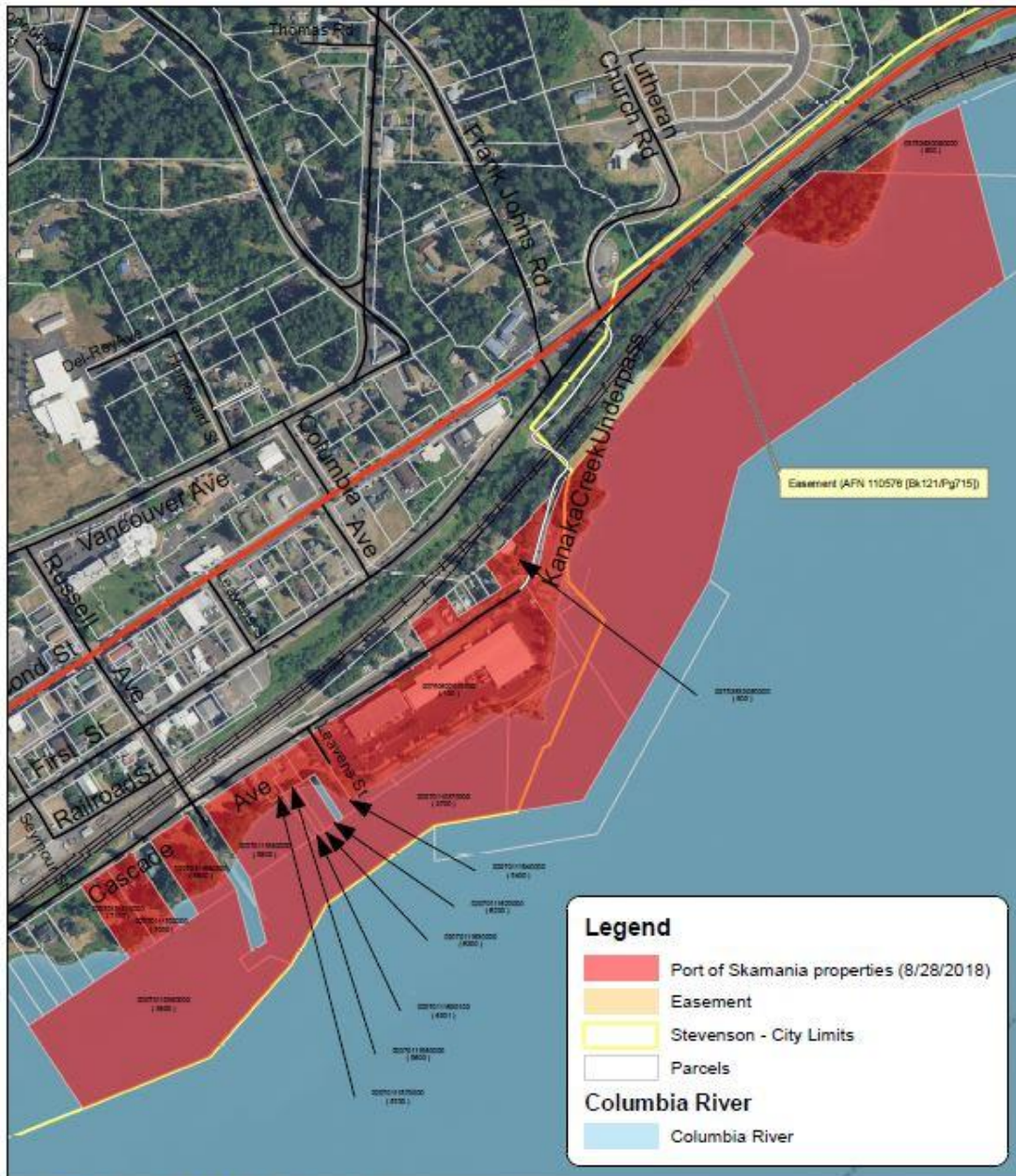
Property Description	Location	Acres	Zoning	
North Bonneville	Beacon Rock Golf Course (Map 2-7-19 parcel 300)	Beacon Rock Golf Course N. Bonneville WA	63.33	I/CR/T
	Cascades Business Park/Parcel 2 (02072000020500)	440 Ft. Cascade Drive N. Bonneville WA 98639	42	I
	USACE Easement	Coyote Ridge Road Connection to Hwy 14 via Fort Cascade Road thru Dam access		N/A

Property Description	Location	Acres	Zoning	
Discovery Building (2002) (Lot I-3)(020719000 <u>30500</u> )  Teitzel Building (2010)	396 Evergreen Drive N. Bonneville WA 98639  390 Evergreen Drive North Bonneville WA 98639	3.05	I	
Skye Building (w BNSF prop 2010) (Lot I-4)(02072000 <u>110200</u> )	380 Evergreen Drive N. Bonneville WA 98639	.92	I	
Evergreen Building (Map 2-7-19 parcel <u>308</u> )	505 Evergreen Drive N. Bonneville WA 98639	1.45	I	
Stevenson	Tichenor, River Point, Rigging Loft (Map 2-75-6-2-2; Parcel 100)	Cascade Ave Stevenson WA	6.31	M1
	Boat Launch (Map 3-75-36-3-3; parcel <u>501</u> )	Cascade Ave Stevenson WA	.47	M1
	Beverly Park (03753633060000)	21 NE Cascade Ave Stevenson WA	.62	C1
	East Point to Boat Launch (027506220 <u>50000</u> )	60 SE Cascade Ave Stevenson WA	2	M1
	Former Location of Port Shop (Map 2-7-1-1-1; parcel <u>5400</u> )	Cascade Ave Stevenson WA	.51	C1
	Former Location of Little Brown House (Map 2-7-1-1-1; parcel <u>5600</u> )	126 SW Cascade Ave Stevenson WA	.17	C1
	Welch Property (Map 2-7-1-1-1; parcel <u>5700</u> )	Cascade Ave Stevenson WA	.17	C1
	Old Saloon (Map 2-7-1-1-1; parcel <u>5800</u> )	130 SW Cascade Ave Stevenson WA	1.56	C1
	Teo Park (Map 2-7-1-1-1; parcel <u>6800</u> )	152 SW Cascade Ave Stevenson WA	1.02	C1
	Bob's Beach (Map 2-7-1-1-1; parcel <u>7000</u> )	206 SW Cascade Ave Stevenson WA	.7	C1
	Port Office House (Map 2-7-1-1-1; parcel <u>7100</u> )	212 SW Cascade Avenue Stevenson WA	.71	U-C1-P
	Underwater - Hamilton St; Front St; Stevenson Landing (Map 2-7-1-A; parcel <u>3800</u> )	Front Street Stevenson WA	11.52	C1
	Underwater – Stevenson Landing; Front St; East Point (Map 2-7-1-A; parcel <u>3700</u> )	Front Street Stevenson WA	5.71	C1
	Underwater - East of Kanaka Creek (Map 3-7.5-36-3-3; parcel <u>500</u> )	Outside Stevenson City Limits	18.03	CC
Underwater – Eignor (Map 2-7-1-1-1, parcel <u>6200</u> )	Front Street (8,900 sf) Stevenson WA	.2	C1	

Property Description	Location	Acres	Zoning
Underwater—Solid Financial (Map 2-7-1-1-1, parcel <u>6300</u> )	Waterfront Pathway Vacated Front Street (4,450 sf) Stevenson WA	.1	C1
Underwater – Schneider (Map 2-7-1-1-1, parcel <u>6301</u> )	Front Street (4,450 sf) Stevenson WA	.1	C1
Outside Stevenson City Limits; east of Kanaka Creek (Map 3-7.5-36-3; parcel <u>900</u> )	Slaughter House Point	2	CC

Port of Skamania County owned properties and easements in/abutting the City of Stevenson, Washington are shaded in red on Map 1 below.

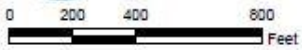
Map 1: Port of Skamania County Properties Located in the City of Stevenson



**SKAMANIA COUNTY**  
Department of Assessment (GIS)

Project name: Port of Skamania Properties (Stevenson Waterfront)  
Created by: Rick Hollatz  
Creation date: 3/10/2011, edited 8/28/2018

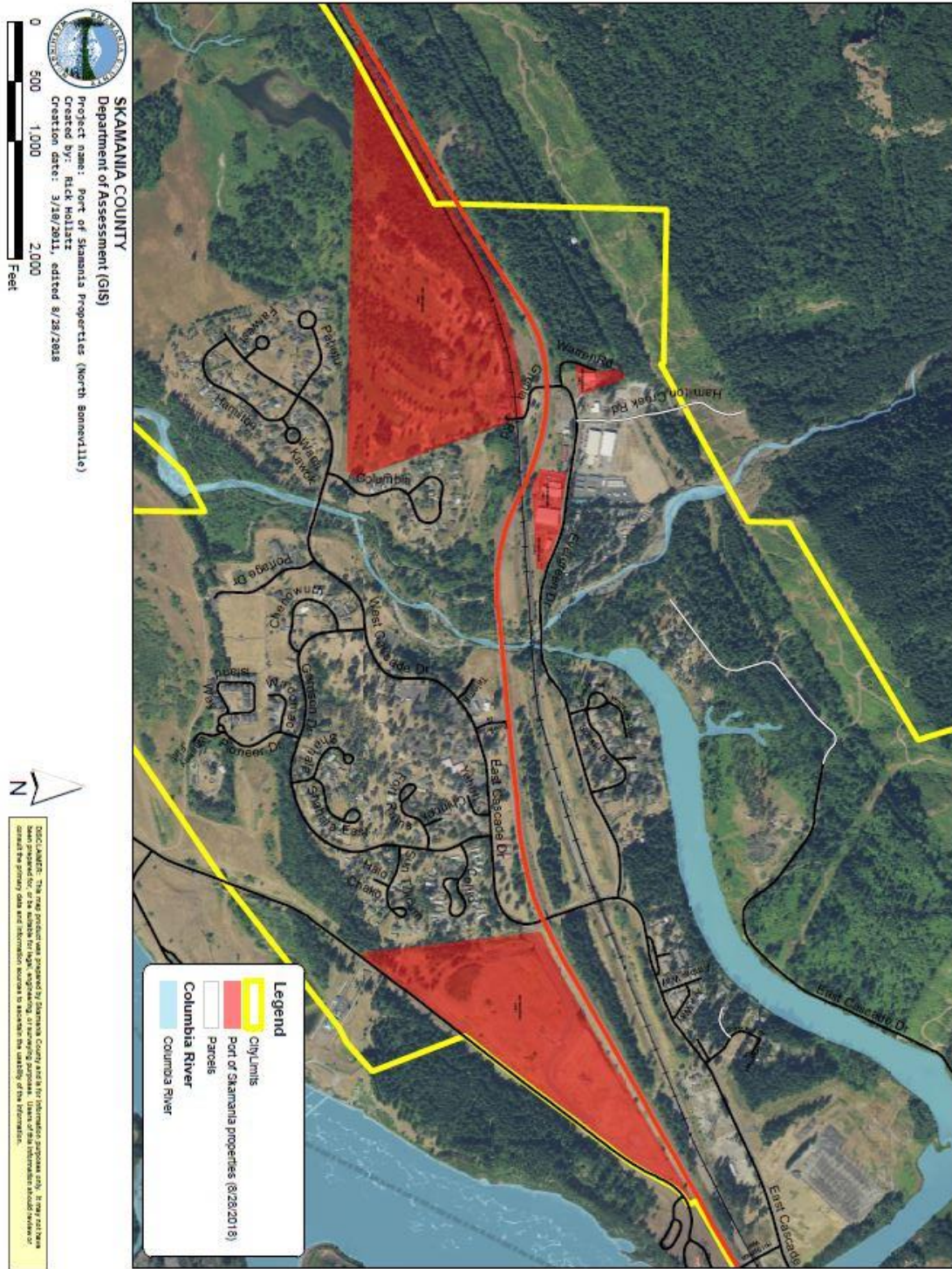
DISCLAIMER: This map product was prepared by Skamania County and is for information purposes only. It may not have been prepared for, or be suitable for, legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. Users of this information should review or consult the primary data and information sources to ascertain the usability of the information.



# Port of Skamania County Comprehensive Scheme of Harbor Improvements

Port of Skamania County owned properties in the City of North Bonneville, Washington are shaded in red on Map 2 below.

Map 2: Port of Skamania County Properties Located in the City of North Bonneville



## Chapter IV: GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

---

This chapter describes the goals, objectives and strategies that support the Port's mission and vision:

### **Goal 1: Increase the Economic Vitality of the Port and Skamania County**

Objective 1.1: Existing Business Retention and Expansion.

*Strategies:*

- Meet annually with the Port tenants and other manufacturing/non-retail service related employers in Skamania County to express appreciation for their business and obtain information related to their future business needs.
- Monitor growth potential of existing business throughout the year. Provide business assistance through the Port staff and the Skamania County EDC.
- Support "Buy Local" initiatives/import substitution when economically feasible.
- Consider establishing a Foreign Trade Zone.

Objective 1.2: Construct New Public Facilities.

*Strategies:*

- Construct light industrial flex buildings as the market will bear.
- Evaluate, and as appropriate, work with private investors on developing buildings and infrastructure.
- Maintain adequate reserves to respond to development opportunities.
- New facilities should be developed to their highest market potential; however, they should be constructed to ensure flexibility as tenant needs change.

Objective 1.3: New Business Recruitment, Marketing and Advertising.

*Strategies:*

- Determine target businesses through sector trends and location quotient analyses (clusters).
- Market to target businesses that provide an entry level wage equal to or greater than Washington State's minimum wage per hour, plus benefits.
- Market to target businesses with at least 15 to 20 jobs per acre.

- Allow other businesses that fit the Port’s objectives, provided they can meet the 15 to 20 jobs per acre range through expansion within 5 years.
- Continue marketing our sites on various websites including appropriate social media.
- Update and maintain Port’s website [www.portofskamania.org](http://www.portofskamania.org).
- Partner within the region and state to pool resources for more effective marketing campaigns aimed at recruiting target businesses.
- Continue to participate in Skamania County’s Red Carpet Team.
- Consider establishing a Foreign Trade Zone.

Objective 1.4: Increase inventory of shovel-ready development sites, including a mix of site sizes to meet future economic development demands.

*Strategies:*

- Complete zoning, surveys, environmental studies, soils analysis, master planning and entitlement process at development sites.
- Continue development of infrastructure for each development site by filling and grading, building roads and utilities including telecommunications as needed to prepare for construction of buildings.
- Maintain adequate financial reserves for infrastructure to respond to development opportunities.
- Evaluate, and as appropriate, work with private investors on developing infrastructure.

Objective 1.5: Support tourism efforts within the Port District and region as appropriate.

*Strategies:*

- Continue to manage tourism and recreational facilities on Port property and expand these uses to support overall economic growth and positive quality of life for Skamania County.
- Track available data regarding visitation, spending and business recruitment decisions as they relate to a healthy and diverse local tourism industry.
- Maintain the beauty of facilities and recreational sites that support tourism and recreation.

**Goal 2: Be a Visible Economic Development Leader Within Skamania County and the Region**

Objective 2.1: Participate in local, county, regional, state, tribal, and federal land use, environmental, and transportation projects or other issues that may impact or influence the Port.

*Strategies:*

- Use available Port and partner agency staff to attend key land use, transportation and economic development forums and hearings.
- Network to decide which venues are most important to staff/attend.

Objective 2.2: Partner with the EDC, Community Action Team, Skamania County, Chamber of Commerce, MCEDD, other ports, and others as appropriate to develop an annual unified list of countywide economic development legislative priorities.

*Strategies:*

- Continue to participate as a member of the Community Action Team (CAT), which currently provides countywide economic development project lists that are updated quarterly.
- Ensure adequate representation and advocacy for high priority Port District projects that have countywide economic significance.

Objective 2.3: Communicate regularly with Port stakeholders to educate them on the Port's mission, goals, and objectives; keep them updated on Port activities; and seek input on key issues and initiatives as appropriate.

*Strategies:*

- Meet with key tenants periodically, and provide district-wide outreach as appropriate (i.e. newsletters; annual workshop; press releases, etc.) to ensure ongoing communication.
- Regularly report port performance data to public, tenants and agencies.
- Continue to attend Community Action Team meetings to communicate Port activities and projects.

### **Goal 3: Develop the Stevenson Waterfront as a Pivotal Port and Community Asset**

Objective 3.1: Recognize the significance of the Stevenson Waterfront as a catalyst for commercial, industrial and tourist/recreational development with potential to impact the entire county.

*Strategies:*

- Provide community outreach to convey the significance of the waterfront with respect to countywide economic development and quality of life.

Objective 3.2: Update the waterfront master plan periodically to reflect current opportunities with respect to zoning, uses and potential partnerships.

*Strategies:*

- Plan with the City of Stevenson including the Planning Commission and City Council to identify appropriate uses and zoning to support a vision and master plan for the waterfront.
- Reach out to private developers and potential tenants to fully understand the impact of various master plan scenarios.

Objective 3.3: Develop general design standards to ensure a cohesive design quality, reasonable energy efficiency and related value for the entire waterfront.

*Strategies:*

- Include example pictures and graphics that express the design intent for the Stevenson Waterfront.
- Include energy efficiency elements that are obtainable.

Objective 3.4: Acquire key waterfront properties.

*Strategies:*

- Identify key waterfront properties.
- Partner with other agencies and private developers.

Objective 3.5: Work with City, County, Skamania County EDC and potential private partners to develop and implement the master plan, capital facilities plan and projects in partnership.

*Strategies:*

- Participate in City of Stevenson Waterfront land use planning and or critical areas/shoreline master plan ordinances to identify improvements for capital facilities, projects and timelines.
- Prioritize waterfront projects, and update the CIP using planning-level cost estimates and pursue joint funding potential among public and private partners.

## **Goal 4: Acquire Key Properties to Accommodate Strategic Growth**

Objective 4.1: Determine effective means of acquiring and holding Port properties, including lease purchases, contract purchases and lease options.

*Strategies:*

- Evaluate the potential to expand the Port's ability to acquire key parcels through purchase options that are less capital intensive, including grants, partnerships, lease options, etc.
- Identify funding sources and partnerships to acquire new development sites.

- Evaluate potential acquisition sites to ensure a reasonable return on investments.

Objective 4.2: Seek grants and foundations for use in acquiring new desirable Port properties that will accommodate current and future growth needs.

*Strategies:*

- Include an analysis of grant and foundation potential before committing to a purchase.
- Optimize grant and foundation potential by partnering with agencies, for example through the Community Action Team (CAT), in order to show funds can be leveraged for land acquisitions and projects that are supported and prioritized countywide.

Objective 4.3: Complete land acquisitions to the extent possible.

*Strategies:*

- Rely on appraisals as required by law and negotiate responsibly for the lowest cost possible when completing land purchases.
- Time land acquisitions to avoid undue price escalation based on Port plans for improvements or other related factors that may push land prices above market rates.

Objective 4.4: To the extent feasible, acquire and hold capital assets to ensure the long-term viability of the Port District.

*Strategies:*

- Favor leasing rather than selling waterfront or high priority Port property.
- The Port's first preference is to lease and manage its facilities; however, exceptions may be made by the Commission where analysis clearly demonstrates a positive outcome for a sale option or remote management.

Objective 4.5: Work with the cities of Stevenson and North Bonneville and Skamania County to evaluate potential land uses and compatible rezoning within the District for economic development.

*Strategies:*

- Take an active role in legislative zoning maps and code revisions that impact Port District properties.
- Evaluate and advocate for any needed rezoning that results as a part of the Stevenson waterfront master planning process.

# Chapter V: FINANCIAL PLAN

---

## A. Financial Guidelines

The guidelines provide a financial basis for conducting and evaluating Port activities and future development program initiatives. These guidelines should be updated periodically to be current with emerging regulations, funding programs, and emerging financial issues facing the Port.

### A.1 Definitions

- **Capital Budgets and Purchases** include expenditures for physical assets, that are used over a period of several years. Examples include major construction projects, buildings, equipment, office furniture, etc.
- **Cash** is the exchange of payment or cash equivalent that can readily be converted into cash.
- **Non-Operating Expenses** include the costs and miscellaneous fees not directly related to the Port's operations.
- **Non-Operating Revenues** include the revenues generated from sources other than the use of Port facilities, such as property tax receipts, interest earnings, and finance charges.
- **Operating Expenses** reflect Port expenditures for daily activities of Port operations, such as direct costs, administrative costs, and maintenance costs.
- **Operating Revenues** include income generated from activities by users of the Port facilities. These types of revenues include, but are not limited to, lease and Stevenson Landing revenues.

### A.2 Operating Budget Guidelines

The Port Commission sets a budget on an annual basis. The Executive Director works toward attaining sufficient operating revenues to cover operating expenses and all bond covenants on an annual basis. A monthly review of operating results is provided to the Commission.

Current and Potential Levy: RCW 53.36.020 states that a district may raise revenue of an annual tax not to exceed \$0.45 per \$1,000 of assessed value for general port purposes, except that any levy for the payment of the principal and interest of the general bonded indebtedness of the port district shall be in excess of any levy made by the port district under the \$0.45 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation limitation.

Property tax levies received by the Port are expended in accordance with the following priorities:

1. Payment of interest on Port General Obligation Bonds

2. Retiring General Obligation Bonds
3. Payment of principal and interest on all other lease and debt obligations
4. Capital expenditures as identified by the Port Commission
5. Support of Port operations, and
6. Community Projects

### **A.3 Revenue Guidelines**

The Port strives to develop and maintain a diversified and stable stream of operating revenues and to shelter it from fluctuations in any one revenue source.

### **A.4 Cash Management and Investment Guidelines**

The Port acts as the Port's Treasurer, and all tenants who wish to pay in cash do so directly at Port office.

- All Port funds are deposited into the Port's depository account and invested in a manner that will maximize interest earnings.
- The Port makes investments, in conformance with Investment Guidelines as stated within the laws of the State of Washington.
- All directives on investments from the Port are made with maturities that ensure adequate resources for payment of all checks on a monthly basis without premature liquidation of temporary investments.
- The Port collects all receivables in a manner that provides timely receipt of funds. When a receivable is deemed uncollectible, the receivable is referred to the Port's attorney or a designated collection agency.

### **A.5 Cash Reserve Guidelines**

The Port strives to maintain sufficient cash reserves and adheres to the following guidelines:

- Maintain a cash balance sufficient to pay an average of six months of operating expenses. If cash reserves fall to levels insufficient to meet these future obligations, the Executive Director will take action to raise the level of cash or decrease expenditures through changes in operations.
- Maintain a sufficient fund balance necessary to meet all debt covenants and obligations.
- If the Port cannot comply with these cash flow guidelines, a detailed plan to increase the cash flow will be prepared by the Executive Director and submitted to the Commission. The Plan should address means and methods for raising revenues, reducing expenses, restructuring debt, or a combination of these activities.

## **A.6 Debt Guidelines**

The Port strives to maintain its finances in a manner that generates cash flow from all sources (before capital projects and long-term debt service payments) sufficient to provide cash to cover all debt covenants required by outstanding bond issues, loans, and adequate rates of return to the Port. The Port adheres to the following debt guidelines:

- The Port will not borrow on a short-term basis to cover routine operations.
- Short-term borrowing (less than 1 year) obligations will not be considered as a financing option unless a detailed plan for repayment of the borrowing is presented by the Executive Director to the Port Commission for approval, prior to the issuance of debt.
- Debt terms/payments should not exceed the anticipated useful life of an improvement.
- The Executive Director will attempt to maintain or improve the Port's General Obligation Bond rating.
- The Port may use General Obligation bonding to finance only those capital improvements and long-term assets that have been determined to be essential to the maintenance of, or improvements to, the Port's infrastructure, or for the purchase of land and buildings that do not have revenue sources sufficient to support the repayment of debt.
- The Port may issue revenue-supported bonds or take on other forms of long-term debt to finance public improvements that can be shown to be self-liquidating. Financial feasibility studies should be presented for each project to show evidence of the self-liquidating nature of the project.
- **Indebtedness – Limitation:** *RCW 53.36.030 1* states that the port district may issue general obligation bonds not exceeding an amount of one-fourth of 1% of the value of the taxable property in the district. Subsection *1(b)* goes further to state that districts having less than \$800 million dollars in valuable taxable property during 1991 may at any time borrow up to three-eighths of 1% of the value of the taxable property in the district. These limitations do not need to be authorized by voters, but the Port must have a comprehensive scheme for harbor improvements or industrial development and a long-term financial plan approved by the Department of Commerce. In addition, the bond proceeds may be only used to acquire or construct a facility, and the Port must already have a lease contract for a minimum of five years for the facility to be acquired or constructed.

Subsection 2 of *RCW 53.36.030* states that a port district may issue total general obligation bonds not exceeding an amount of three-fourths of 1% of the value of the taxable property in the district.

## **A.7 Capital Projects Budget Guidelines**

The Port prepares and prioritizes a list of projects annually as part of its budgeting process. The Port strives to meet the following guidelines:

- Capital project improvements will be funded by non-operating revenues, operating revenues, debt, and/or grants.

- The Port maintains its physical assets at a level adequate to protect the Port's capital investments and to minimize future maintenance and replacement costs.
- A detailed maintenance schedule should be developed and updated, and sufficient levels of funding for maintenance will be included in the Port's annual budget.
- Making non-budgeted capital project investments - When Port staff or the Commission determines that a project not included in the annual budget is of sufficient urgency to be proposed for completion in the current fiscal year, the Commission may approve proceeding with the project after detailed review of the project.

## B. Port District Financing

The Port of Skamania County has five general types of funding opportunities: general obligation bonds, revenue bonds, establishment of local improvement (LID) or industrial development (ULID) districts, local/State/Federal grant financing and Tax Increment Financing (TIF).

- **General Obligation Bonds:** The Port can issue general obligation bonds (GO Bonds) which are backed by the assessed value of property within the district. Washington State law sets two caps on such taxation without voter approval. First, Ports are limited to levying no more than 106% of the total levy of the previous year AND each property may not be taxed more than 1% of the total assessed value of their property. GO bonds can be issued without voter approval in an aggregate amount not to exceed 1% of the total assessed value of taxable property within the port district. Exceeding the statutory caps requires voter approval. GO bonds represent a viable opportunity for capital project improvement financing for the Port of Skamania County for a project that has widespread community support.
- **Revenue Bonds:** Revenue bonds are payable solely from Port operating revenues. Revenue bonds and warrants can be issued without voter authorization as long as they comply with statutory limits and the capacity of a Port to manage the debt service from operational revenue streams. With the Port of Skamania County's limited revenue streams, it is unlikely revenue bonds are a viable source of funding for capital projects.
- **LID/ULID:** Ports have the statutory authority to establish local improvement districts or industrial development districts within their Port District and levy special assessments on the benefited property to pay for improvements. These are payable in annual payments for up to 20 years. LID/ULIDs are generally used for massive capital improvement projects that benefit numerous large tenants and/or private property owners. The formation of LID/ULID districts could be considered as a potential source of funding for strategic infrastructure improvements along the Stevenson waterfront and at Cascades Business Park.
- **Bank Loans:** Such loans would require levy revenue restrictions as collateral. Given the Port of Skamania County's limited operating revenues, bank loans would only be viable for smaller budget improvements that promise rapid return on the investment.
- **Grant Financing:** Grants offer the greatest potential for the capital improvement projects and initiatives that the Port is considering. The Port can leverage local dollars as

a match for this type of financing. Grants are typically very competitive. The Port will actively pursue grant opportunities appropriate to its projects.

- **Tax Increment Financing (TIF):** Ports have the ability to use TIF to fund public infrastructure in targeted areas to encourage private development and investment (chapter 39.114 RCW). To utilize TIF, the Port would designate an “increment area” surrounding the site of the public improvements. The property tax portion of increases in assessed value of properties within the increment area is allocated towards paying for the public improvement costs.

# Chapter VI:

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

---

### A. Capital Project Planning

The Port continues to plan capital project funding efforts with local governments, including Skamania County, City of Stevenson, and the City of North Bonneville. Coordinated planning may influence the development of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP), and assist with the overall implementation of the Port's Comprehensive Scheme.

The CIP assesses capital project needs, priorities, and funding. The CIP is also a useful tool for coordinating capital projects among local stakeholders, state and federal jurisdictions. The CIP is part of the Port's projects budget, and is reviewed and approved annually.

The CIP represents the Port's general intent to construct specific capital projects or acquire assets. Although the CIP provides a prioritized list of projects, the actual timing of project expenditures is contingent on funding availability and/or project readiness.

The CIP is attached as Appendix B.

### B. Project Guidelines

The Port determines new capital project improvements and aligns potential benefits with potential costs. Examples include a road or water line or sewer line improvement in a city, where there may be local city, local private, and Port benefits. The following factors are evaluated in the planning process:

1. Project Benefit
2. Project Cost/Economies of Scale
3. Ownership
4. Legal Requirements—federal, state and local mandates
5. Funding Sources
6. Project Timing
7. Public Input
8. Public Health and Safety
9. Environmental and Cultural Resource Issues

# Chapter VII: PLAN ADOPTION AND UPDATE

## A. Plan Adoption Process ( to be completed after adoption – example below)

At the August 20, 2024 Commission Meeting the plan revisions to the Plan were approved and the 2024 Comprehensive Scheme of Harbor Improvement Plan was adopted in Resolution 7-2024.

**Port of Skamania County  
Minutes of the Board of Commissioners  
August 21, 2018  
Regular Meeting, 5:00pm**

**Call to Order:** Commissioner Collins called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

**In attendance:** Commissioners Gail Collins, Kevin Waters, and Todd Kingston, Attorney Ken Woodrich, Director Pat Albaugh, Finance Manager Cindy Bradley. Guests: Bruce Nissen, David Ryan, Leanna Johnson, Tiffany Pearsall, Julie Baldwin, Richard ~~Kotulsk~~, Phillip ~~Watness~~, and Tom ~~Lannen~~.

**Open Public Hearing for the Comprehensive Scheme of Harbor Improvements at 5:02pm.**

Leanna Johnson updated the commission on the waste water treatment value planning process. The city is looking at resource recovery as a way to utilize the spent yeast and other waste products from the brewing and distilling processes, so that they can be removed from the waste water system. The city has submitted a project brief to the EPA which has been accepted. It will be forwarded on to a formal request for funding to see if the City can make it a viable business essentially making the City the middle man instead of making each individual company find their own waste removal option. The City is also submitting an EDA grant application related to the flood mitigation following the flood emergency that was declared in 2017. This will relate mostly to the collection systems, generators, flood walls around the treatment facility, and the lift stations. Additional funding may be sought for the pre-treatment options. Due to the location of the lift stations being on Port and County properties, the City may be asking the Port to partner in the application process or at a minimum grant right of way or easement access. Leanna stated that the final testing results report has not yet been completed. She is anticipating the report next week. Preliminary testing has not shown any additional locations that are contributing large volumes to the BOD load. The city is also considering side streaming as an option. They are continuing to look at the potential rate structure.

Staff presented and reviewed the first draft of the Comprehensive Scheme of Harbor Improvements. The commission directed the staff to make additional changes to the draft and present it again at the next scheduled commission meeting.

Commissioner Collins called for any additional public comments. Hearing none he closed the Public Hearing at 5:58 pm

**Next Meeting:** The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Port Commissioners is September 18, 2018 at 6:00pm at the Port office conference room: 212 SW Cascade Avenue, Stevenson, Washington.

**APPROVED BY:**



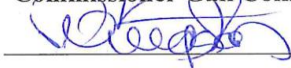
---

**Commissioner Kevin Waters**, Secretary (District 1)



---

**Commissioner Gail Collins**, President (District 2)



---

**Commissioner Todd Kingston**, Vice-President (District 3)

**ATTEST:**   
Cindy Bradley, Minutes Taker

## **B. Plan Update Process**

The Port reviews this plan annually with the annual budget and updates as circumstances arise.

## Appendix A: Port of Skamania County Map of District

