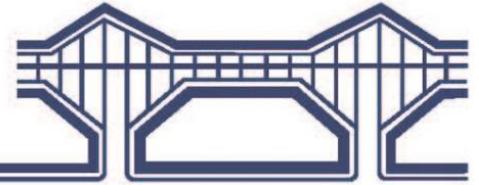


Port Report



Port Progress

The Port Commission and Staff have been moving forward on many projects over the last few months. Summer is always a busy season, but as it comes to an end we like to look back and review what was accomplished:

- Awarded contract for the construction of Flex Building No. 2 in the Herman Creek Business Complex. The Port has two tenants who have already committed to rent the space once the building is done. Final completion is expected by the end of October.
- Awarded contract for Excavation for Flex Building No. 4 has started. Final completion for the building is expected by May 2018. Currently has half the building committed. 3,000 SF space is still available.
- Port Commission received and adopted a report and recommendations from the Pony Building Task Force regarding the future of the historic Pony Building.
- Port commission adopted the Scoping Projects Document dealing with five critically important transportation projects in & around Cascade Locks that include the redesign of the WaNaPa & Toll Booth Road intersection as well as plans to increase safety & freight mobility through town & to aid local economic development efforts.
- Received state and federal funding for the State Airport Feasibility study. The study will be done in partnership with the state and will help both the state and the community determine the highest and best use of the airport property.
- Worked with the Governor's office to bring resources to town to help individuals and businesses that were impacted of the recent fire.
- Completed the traffic study related to the BOG and to gather data for potential grant applications for both BOG technology and the Bike-Ped crossing being proposed.
- Maintenance & Construction completed the wainscoting project on Flex Building No. 3.



Flex Building No. 2 gets insulation and siding.

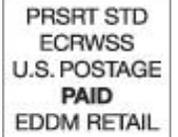
- Seated representatives from Mt. Hood Meadows on the JWGED. Mt. Hood Meadows is the largest employer in Hood River County.
- Maintenance Staff redesigned and landscaped the garden beds at Sacagawea Circle as well as reconditioned all flower beds throughout the park.
- Port Maintenance Staff and Events Coordinator designed and constructed secondary ceremony site on Thunder Island to better serve the growing demand of peak season venue rentals.
- Port facilities generated over \$20,000 in rental revenue for the 2017 Peak Season.
- Port Staff partnered with security and IT Consultants to create a plan to remodel the toll booth to house updated security equipment.



Port Commission President Jess Groves speaks to Gov. Kate Brown of the importance of tourism and the reopening of trails for the local economy in Sept. 29th Town Hall Meeting.



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Local Postal Customer

A Balanced Economy for Sustainability

Cascade Locks has been the host to many tourists and tourist events ever since the beginning of the National Scenic Area. As a result, much of the local economy is built around tourism and hosting visitors. In fact, many of our local businesses rely heavily on the tourism element to support the local economy. Indeed, many of our businesses have about 5 months in order to make their financial goals for the year. The tourism economy is seasonal and the Port is about balancing the local economy in a way that will both add businesses and jobs while at the same time aiding our local businesses to be more successful year round. Over the past four years, the Port has focused on adding businesses and jobs that are related to the tourism focus or sized to fit existing Port resources. It is time to begin to focus on adding an anchor business or two; larger businesses that can bring people to town year round, and add new customers to existing businesses while creating more job opportunities for our local citizens. And, businesses that can significantly enhance our community's ability to provide enhanced fire, EMS and law enforcement services to benefit the whole community. By building on our recent successes, remembering our most recent crisis, we can, **by all working together**, ensure the strengthening of our existing businesses while encouraging larger businesses to locate here to balance out our local economy. The balance will help us ensure success while aiding our local businesses to thrive year round.

Bridge of the Gods Toll Review

In September, the Port Commission began their annual review of the toll rates at the Bridge of the Gods. In January of 2017, the Port of Cascade Locks adopted a 15 year Maintenance and Preservation Plan to ensure continued safe passage and structural integrity for the 91 year old bridge. The Maintenance and Preservation plan indicates a need to spend a total of 57 million dollars over the next 15 years for bridge maintenance, structural improvements and automated tolling technology. In 2016, the Bridge of the Gods had over 1.5 million vehicle, pedestrian and cyclist crossings. With the growing popularity of the Scenic Gorge, it is expected that we will see more use in the years to come. The Bridge is part of a critical freight corridor between Oregon and Washington and provides crucial access across the river for local residents. The Port Commission met on September 21st to discuss any possible changes to the toll rates. The Port also hosted a meeting on September 27th in Stevenson at the Hegewald Center at 6pm. At this time, the Port Commission does not intend to increase the toll for local 2 axle residents but is closely reviewing tolls for large commercial trucks using the Bridge. Any adopted changes to toll rates would take effect on January 1st, of 2018.

With respect of the recent Eagle Creek Fire the Port of Cascade Locks would like to give a huge thanks to everyone in our community that stepped up, helped a neighbor, or fed a firefighter. In moments of distress, we can take pride knowing that we supported one another and ultimately became an even stronger community.

