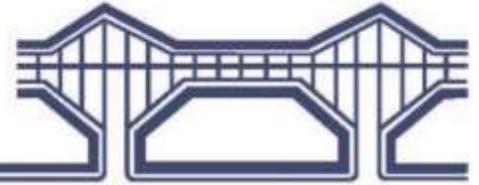


Port Report



Retreat Budget Priorities FY 2016-17

During a recent work retreat to Cooper Spur at the southern end of the port district, the Port Commission began developing budget priorities for the next budget year FY 2016-17, which begins next July. The preliminary list of priorities includes:

- a. Bridge of the Gods repair & maintenance
- b. Economic development & job creation
- c. Grant writing to support local projects
- d. Enhance relationships with Treaty Tribes
- e. Marketing & communication
- f. Facility maintenance
- g. Increase facility use
- h. Strengthen regional, state, and national relationships to benefit the community
- i. Enhance Port administration, management

The Commission will meet on January 7th to finalize these priorities. Following Commission action, staff will then build the draft 2016-17 budget around the Commission direction, for Port Budget Committee review. There are currently two vacant seats to be filled on the Port Budget Committee 541-374-2403.

During the retreat, the Commission also reviewed the Port's 2013 Adopted Strategic Business Plan (SBP). Significant progress has been made since the plan's adoption. The Commission will schedule a discussion to refresh the SBP this spring, so that the plan accurately reflects current opportunities.

Bridge of the Gods Canopy Work

The fall toll booth canopy maintenance work has been completed at the bridge. Repairs included a new roof, wood shingle siding, some new support beams, and paint. The work was performed by the Port Maintenance Department staff in coordination with contractor Maher Roofing out of Hood River.

Routine spot welding continues on the bridge deck as weather permits, with some flagged traffic delay. We apologize for the inconvenience that this may cause to bridge users on both sides of the river.

Happy Holidays from the Port !

Free bridge crossings (no tolls)

December 24th 9pm to
December 26th 7am



Continued RR Building Fire Cleanup

The Port continues to work with its insurance provider regarding the loss experienced in the August fire in the Port's old storage building. The building was leased from the Union Pacific Railroad. At this time, the site has been cleaned up and is awaiting inspection by UPRR. An arborist recently inspected the entire property and provided recommendations for action regarding the trees impacted by the fire. A new replacement snow plow and trailer have been purchased with insurance proceeds. Other lost items will be replaced when possible.

Cooperative Marketing Effort

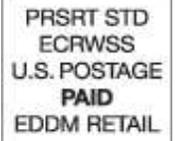
The Port's FY 2015-16 budget includes \$10,000 to help promote existing local businesses in Cascade Locks. Port staff are working in collaboration with local business owners, the Cascade Locks Business Association, the Cascade Locks Tourism Committee to develop a plan for this cooperative marketing effort. The target time period for a boost in community promotion will be the slow shoulder season February - April, typically challenging months for year-round businesses.

Business Park Infrastructure Status

Port contractor Summit Excavation has laid the first two inches of asphalt on the new road NE Columbia Gorge Way, near the quarry in the Port's Business Park. Additional asphalt layers and the sidewalks will be completed in the spring. The roadway project deadline has been extended in order to allow for weather delays and seasonal timing of regional batch plants for materials.



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Local Postal Customer

ODFW-City Water Exchange Process

Governor Kate Brown recently instructed top State agency staff to stop the water right cross transfer process, and to switch back to the first water exchange track, initiated by ODFW and the city in 2010. The intent of the Governor's procedural change is to ensure sufficient public involvement during the application review. On November 20th, the Mayor of Cascade Locks and the Port Commission President met with the Governor's key staff to discuss the application. Cascade Locks elected leaders are now awaiting further direction and a revised timeline from the Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) in order to resume the exchange process where they left off.

No Toll Booth Holiday Light Display

The Port's collection of holiday light displays that typically adorn Toll Booth Park were destroyed in the RR fire. Because of this loss, there will be no light display this year. The Port is discussing future high-quality lighting program options with the City and the Cascade Locks Business Association.

The Season of Giving Locally

The Annual Giving Tree is up at City Hall. Anonymous donors can pull a tag and shop for gifts for local children. The deadline for unwrapped gifts delivered to City Hall is December 11th. For more information: 541-374-8484.

The Cascade Locks School is in need of warm clothing items for students this winter: youth jackets, sweaters, hats, gloves, scarves, socks, and shoes. They are also in need of office and art supplies: printer paper (lots), sharpies, erasers, colored pencils and crayons, small scissors, etc. For more information: CL School 541-374-8467.

The Fish Food Bank Donations of cash or checks can be mailed to the FISH Food Bank P.O. Box 428 in Cascade Locks or dropped in the check-out counter canisters at the Columbia Market. FISH accounts are set up at the Columbia Market in Cascade Locks and A&J Market in Stevenson. Non-expired non-perishable products can be dropped off at City Hall during business hours. Most needed now are personal care items. Information: Sharon 503-351-6785 or Martha 310-613-0681.

LOCAL TRIVIA QUIZ FOR PRIZES

Be one of the first three people to correctly answer this question (spelling counts) by email to: rare@portofcascadelocks.org, and win a gift certificate to a local business!

Adults: Besides the Port of Cascade Locks, name three ports on the Columbia River (OR or WA ok).

Youth (Under 18): What color is the famous Sternwheeler *Columbia Gorge's* paddle wheel?