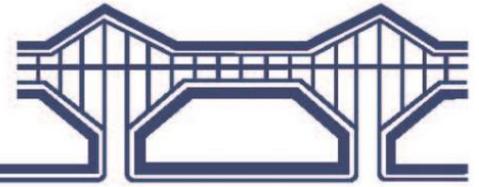


Port Report



Nestle Project Due Diligence

During the Oregon Business Summit in January, Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber stated that we should not be limited by “the false choice between the environment and our economy,” pointing out the importance of putting our natural resources to work.

Port and City leadership are working together to carry out careful due diligence on an opportunity presented by Nestle here in Cascade Locks. The proposed water-bottling plant will provide 50 full-time jobs with benefits. An economic study commissioned by the Port indicated that the Nestle project would result in \$50 million of new investment, and provide \$26 million direct, indirect, and induced economic benefits to Cascade Locks.

The City has identified that the Nestle opportunity, after the initial tax abatement period, will increase City total tax revenue by 67%. Wastewater revenue would increase 40%. Electric service revenue would double at full plant build out.

The Port supports the City's initiative to cut years off the state's water transfer process by pursuing a cross transfer process. This process will still protect the transparency of the process and public input, while expediting the process at the state level.

The cross transfer process is a regulatory process designed to trade a small portion of the City's well water for the exact same amount of spring water from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) supply at Oxbow Springs. ODFW will use the stable clean supply of well water to raise endangered species at the Oxbow Fish Hatchery during low flow periods. The City will sell the spring water to Nestle. The trade will benefit both agencies.

ODFW has expressed support for this alternative process and is conducting their final internal review. If ODFW chooses not to pursue this alternative process, the City will revert to the previous process toward the same end goal.

It is important to remember that Nestle will not hold any water rights. The company will purchase municipal water from the city, just like any other new industrial business in town. There is a lot of misinformation over this fact.

Both the City and Port continue to analyze and assess the potential impact of this opportunity on the community.

Port Representation on the Road

The Port of Cascade Locks was a silver-level sponsor at the January **US Sailing** National Sailing Programs Symposium (NSPS) conference in New Orleans, in partnership with the Columbia Gorge Racing Association (CGRA). At the end of February, the Port and City will send representatives on an annual trip to **Washington DC** in association with the Pacific Northwest Waterways Association (PNWA) to meet with federal legislators and federal agency staff on important local issues.

Hood River, Cascade Locks Ports Meet

The Port Commissions representing the two Hood River County public ports met in joint session last week to discuss current issues and priorities between the economic development entities. Both ports are participating in the **One Gorge Alliance**, a coalition of public and private partners advocating for full National Scenic Act implementation, support for the two port-owned bridges, regional transportation system, shared emergency services, and fiber optics capacity.



355 Wa Na Pa St
PO Box 307
Cascade Locks,
OR 97014
(541) 374-8619



Public meetings are held at 6 pm on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month in Cascade Locks City Hall Council Chambers.

The mission of the Port of Cascade Locks is to:

- Operate in a fiscally prudent manner to ensure its continuity
- Facilitate effective infrastructure and transportation solutions
- Recruit new businesses to create family wage jobs and economic growth within the Port District and region
- Create economic growth opportunities for existing businesses within the Port District
- Enhance tourism and recreation for the Columbia River Gorge region
- Provide leadership and create partnerships within the region for economic development
- Utilize our natural resources

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
CASCADE LOCKS, OR
PERMIT NO. 9

Community Member 97014

Bridge Bike/Ped Safety Feasibility Study

A local working group with representatives from the Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA), the Port of Cascade Locks, the City of Stevenson, and the Friends of the Gorge have achieved the fundraising goal of \$18,000 for the next phase of feasibility study to explore design options to provide safer bridge crossings for non-motorized users (hikers, runners, walkers, bikers, possibly even equestrians). Portland engineering firm HDR will perform this feasibility work to explore a cantilevered addition to the current bridge, as well as a stand-alone structure.

Smoke & Tobacco-Free Playground

The Port Commission is scheduled to consider a proposal by Hood River County Prevention Department staff proposing that the Port of Cascade Locks designate the area around the Marine Park Playground as “smoke and tobacco free” as a public health initiative to protect the children and families who frequently use the popular play structures. Many other public agencies in Hood River County have adopted similar policies to protect local children. The meeting is 2/5, 6pm.

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: What year was the Cascade Locks Historical Museum first dedicated?

Youth (Under 18): Name any one of the five current Port Commissioners.