

# The

# Navigator

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The purpose of the Port of Olympia shall be to vigorously manage its assets to provide maximum benefits to the citizens of Thurston County. To do this, the Port shall **BUILD** relationships, facilities, and infrastructure that help the Thurston County economy **GROW**, while it serves those who **MOVE** products and people and accepts a role to **IMPROVE** Thurston County's recreational options and environment.

Port of Olympia Mission Statement

## Port Celebrates 85 Years

Our community has changed dramatically since the port was formed 85 years ago. Then, about 22,000 people lived in Thurston County, lumber and plywood mills dotted the shoreline, and new shipping facilities were needed to get products to markets. Thurston County residents were eager to participate in the new commercial age and embraced the formation of a countywide port district by a public vote on November 7, 1922.

Today, over 230,000 people call Thurston County home. In addition to the shipping terminal, the port now includes the Olympia Regional Airport, Swantown Marina & Boatworks and a property development division.

What remains unchanged is the port's commitment to stimulating local economic opportunity. On the occasion of the port's 85th anniversary, *The Navigator* provides a glimpse of the port's past and its present service to the community.

was frequented by "penny a pound" barnstormers in the 1930's, was operated by the military during World War II, and has been home to flying schools, aircraft services, and commercial airlines. In 1963, the port purchased the 835-acre airport. An Industrial Development District was formed in 1966, making it possible to use 700 acres of airport land for industrial purposes.

Today, the Olympia Regional Airport is the most viable corporate alternative airport



In the 1920's, the KASHU MARU loaded lumber cargoes at new port docks.

### From lumber to windmill blades

In 1924, the first port commissioners purchased seven blocks of waterfront and borrowed \$155,000 to develop a deep-water port. Over the years, the marine terminal has handled cargoes ranging from lumber and oysters to canned goods and logs. Today's working waterfront serves diverse shipping needs, including logs bound for Japan, windmill blades from Brazil, military equipment returning from Iraq and garnet from India and Australia.

### From barnstormers to Lear jets and business parks

Located in Tumwater, the airport was purchased by the City of Olympia in 1928. It

in Puget Sound, and the development district has been renamed NewMarket Industrial Campus to reflect the original Tumwater settlement. The area supports diverse employers, including airport services, manufacturing, retail, distribution facilities, hotels and state offices.

### From John Swan to boatyards

The port has long served recreational boaters, starting with the first lease to the Olympia Yacht Club in 1926. In the 1960's, the port acquired property on Olympia's East Bay, and, after dredging and filling, East Bay Marina opened in 1983 with 540 slips, a

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## Commission Message

### Port Plays Vital Role in Community

By Bob Van Schoorl

Ports are the only public agencies whose primary purpose is to stimulate economic activity for local




communities. Over the last 14 years, I have been proud to be part of port-initiated activities that

have contributed significantly to the community's economic and cultural health and wealth.

Some of these have included creating the Market District in downtown Olympia; continuing to open the waterfront for recreational uses; transforming Swantown Marina & Boatworks into a top-notch regional boating destination and service center; maintaining a safe and secure regional airport; and cleaning up the Cascade Pole brownfield on the port peninsula.

There are other exciting activities on the horizon. The community can look forward to developing port properties for mixed uses that support the vision for a new Tumwater Town Center; creating a destination at NorthPoint where the new Anthony's Hearthfire Grill is leading the way; and redeveloping the 14-acre East Bay district with a new civic and cultural center for the region.

I would like to thank all the citizens of Thurston County for the opportunity to serve as District 1 Port Commissioner. I look forward to watching our community grow and prosper. My best wishes to you all. 

## 2007 in Review

This year was one of progress and some challenges at the port.

Progress included:

- Diverse cargoes crossed port docks, including automobiles, wind turbine blades, crushed garnet, heavy equipment, logs and returning military equipment.
- Anthony's Hearthfire Grill opened at NorthPoint.
- A purchase and sale agreement for 2 acres was completed with the LOTT Alliance to expand the treatment plant.
- New leases in Tumwater included an expansion for Cardinal Glass and 9.3 acres to Vine Street for a new office/retail project.
- The first phase of runway and taxiway safety improvements at the Olympia Regional Airport was completed.




In July, nearly 4,000 Kia automobiles were unloaded at the port.

- Swantown Marina drew a record number of guest boaters and refurbished 3 docks, while Swantown Boatworks hauled out over 800 boats and expanded the boatyard.

Challenges included:

- Weyerhaeuser log handling operations were delayed due to legal actions.
- Permitting issues held up Pro Logis warehouse development in Tumwater.
- Protests interrupted the transport of military equipment returning from Iraq.

"In 2008, we expect Weyerhaeuser will begin operations, progress will continue on developing East Bay, the runway project will be completed, and port operations will return to producing a positive cash flow," said Port Commission President Paul Telford. 

## Commissioner Van Schoorl Completes 14 Years of Service

As his term comes to an end, the Port of Olympia Commission and staff recognize Commissioner Bob Van Schoorl for his many contributions over the past 14 years to the port and the Thurston County community.

Among other things, he will be remembered for leading the implementation of the port's 20-year strategic plan. This plan called for developing port properties to meet community-defined needs.

"Commissioner Van Schoorl has kept the port focused on accomplishing priorities that have the greatest community benefit," said Ed Galligan, port executive director.


Specific accomplishments include Van Schoorl's leadership in developing Swantown Marina & Boatworks and the Market District. He has also been instrumental in planning for the current redevelopment of the East Bay district.

Setting high environmental standards for port operations and activities has been a top priority for Van Schoorl. He played a key role in the re-

mediation of the Cascade Pole brownfield, and held the port accountable for performing comprehensive environmental review of projects.

"Having worked with Bob as both a port commissioner and in a staff capacity, I know Bob truly understands the mission of the port in regional economic development," said Port Commissioner Bill McGregor.

He cited Van Schoorl's leadership in forging partnerships with the Thurston County Economic Development Council, chambers of commerce, and other organizations to support business growth in Thurston County.

Van Schoorl plans to stay involved in the economic development sector. "My family and I are committed to this community," he said. 



Commissioner Van Schoorl (left) congratulates the winner at the annual BoatSwap & Chowder Challenge.

# George Barner to Join Port Commission

The port welcomes George Barner, who was recently elected to the Port of Olympia Commission. He will take office in January 2008.

"I am very pleased to be joining the commission," said Barner. "I think people in Thurston County are looking for a change in how the port conducts business, and I hope to be able to provide some options."

During his four-year term, Barner wants to bring more openness and public participation to the commission's decision-making process. Among ideas he would like considered are revising the commission ethics policy, promoting low-impact recreation in development of the port peninsula, looking at options for the redevelopment of



George Barner

the East Bay district, and exploring alternative locations for a regional rail cargo logistics center.

"I anticipate Commissioner-Elect Barner will bring new ideas and perspectives," said port Executive Director Ed Galligan. "Port staff looks forward to getting to know him."

An Olympia native, Barner, 66, served as a Thurston County commissioner from 1977 to 1993. During that time, he secured funds for Kennedell Park on Black Lake and the Yelm Highway Amtrak station. A graduate of The Evergreen State College, he has a BA in Political Economy and Environmental Studies.

Barner has worked in a variety of jobs, including longshoreman, construction worker and delivery truck driver. From 1993-2003, he worked with juvenile felons as a counselor and commissary manager at the Department of Social and Health Services Green Hills facility.

## Community

### Market Farmers Need Your Help

In recent weeks, the Olympia Farmers Market and KGY, both port peninsula tenants, stepped up to help families affected by recent floods in western Washington.

Flooding in South Thurston and Lewis counties impacted 14 farmers who are vendors at the Olympia Farmers Market. Some of these families lost their homes, farmlands, animals and equipment. What they didn't lose was their spirit.



The market is helping these farmers directly, and a Farmers Relief Fund has been set up. Donations are being taken at Heritage Bank and on-line at [www.olympiafarmersmarket.com](http://www.olympiafarmersmarket.com). While these contributions are not tax deductible, they go directly to market farmers.

"We have had a huge outpouring from people who want to help," said Charlie Haney, market manager. "The market closes for the season in December, and our farmers will spend the winter cleaning up and rebuilding for the future."

At the other end of the port peninsula, KGY radio has been at the forefront of local relief efforts. The station hosted a trailer for donations, collecting over \$37,000 in cash and countless amounts of supplies and clothing for hard-hit families. In addition, KGY provided on-air support and information concerning other collection stations and ways people in the Thurston County area can help.

## Energizing East Bay

What do the Port of Olympia, Hands on Children's Museum, LOTT Alliance and the City of Olympia have in common? These partners have joined together to create a dynamic center of activity, connecting surrounding communities, the waterfront and Olympia's downtown.

The individual projects – a larger, permanent home for the Hands On Children's Museum, a new administrative and education center for LOTT, and an economic development platform for the port – will energize the redevelopment of the entire area. The 14-acre district will also include a jointly developed, public plaza.

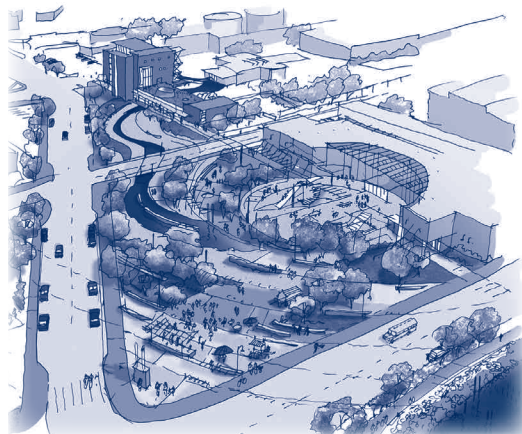
In addition, the partners hope to:

- Create unparalleled community learning opportunities
- Ensure the comprehensive environmental clean-up of the East Bay area
- Stimulate economic development that is "right-sized" for the community and will help revitalize the east end of downtown Olympia

"The port is excited about this dynamic core of new projects that will serve the community for generations to come," said Ed Galligan, port executive director.

Progress is being made toward making this vision a reality. The port is facilitating the subdivision of the district, property agreements are moving forward with LOTT and the children's museum, and exciting design work is in progress.

A public process to provide information and gather community input is under way. An open house was held in the fall, the partners are scheduling presentations for interested community groups, and additional opportunities for public information and involvement are forthcoming. For information, please contact Patti Grant at (360) 528-8012.



**Navigator**

915 Washington Street NE  
Olympia, WA 98501

**Port Celebrates 85 Years**

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public launch ramp, walking trails and moorage for visiting boats. Renamed Swantown for early Olympia boat builder and developer John Swan, today's marina has over 700 slips with more being planned. In 1999, Swantown Boatworks, an environmentally state-of-the-art boatyard and service center, was opened.

**From canneries and cargo yards to the Farmers Market**


From 1915 to 1959, the Olympia Canning Company operated between Capitol Way and C Street, processing 20,000 tons of fruit a year. Canning gave way to cargo yards for the booming log and lumber business at the port. In the early 1990's, the international trade market and needs of the community precipitated a change in direction. The port diversified its property holdings and began development of today's vibrant Market District at the foot of Capitol Way, home to the Olympia Farmers Market, Port Plaza, offices, restaurants and other new development.

**From brownfields to restoring and protecting the environment**

Over the years, a variety of wood treatment industries were located on the north end of the port peninsula. From 1939 to 1986, companies used chemicals to preserve utility poles and railroad ties, and some of the treatment practices were environmentally damaging. The port, in partnership with the Washington State Department of Ecology, has been working for the last 20 years to clean up

past contamination and return this property to renewed public use. Within the next few years, the site will be capped and used for public waterfront access and for parking to support marina and other business development. The port embraces opportunities to simultaneously improve our community's environment while growing its economy.

**A continued commitment to serving Thurston County**

Today's port looks different than it did 85 years ago, but its core mission has remained the same – providing economic opportunities, creating jobs, and improving the quality of life for Thurston County citizens. The port looks forward to continuing to serve the community for many years to come. 

**Commission Meeting Schedule**

**The Port of Olympia Commission meets on the second and fourth Monday of each month in the LOTT Board Room, Market Centre Building, 111 Market Street NE, Second Floor, Olympia.**

**All meetings begin at 5:30 p.m.**

**For more information, call (360) 528-8000 or go to the port's website [www.portolympia.com](http://www.portolympia.com).**

**Questions or comments may also be directed to [inquiries@portolympia.com](mailto:inquiries@portolympia.com) or 915**

**Washington St. NE, Olympia, WA 98501.**

# The Navigator

Port Commissioners:

**Bill McGregor**

**Paul Telford**

**Bob Van Schoorl**

Directors:

**Ed Galligan**

Executive Director

**Jim Amador** Marine Terminal Director

**Steve Davis** Finance Director

**Jeff Lincoln** Engineering Director

**Bruce Marshall** Harbor Director

**Kari L. Qvigstad**

Marketing and Business

Development Director

**Rudy Rudolph** Airport Director

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**Marketing and Business  
Development Department**

For more information:

Telephone: **(360) 528-8000**

E-mail: [inquiries@portolympia.com](mailto:inquiries@portolympia.com)

Web: [www.portolympia.com](http://www.portolympia.com)

