



THE PORT REPORT

Port of Bremerton Newsletter • Winter 2024



Foreword From Port Chief Executive Officer

Jim Rothlin

Your Port of Bremerton staff are relentless in their efforts to meet and exceed the Port's mission of creating new jobs and improving the quality of life for its community. Recently, the Washington Public Ports Association (WPPA) awarded the Port of Bremerton the Washington State 'Port of the Year'. The Port of Bremerton was honored to be the recipient of this award of the 75 Ports in the state of Washington.

This success does not happen overnight. It comes from persistence in how our team views this Port's purpose. It is inspired by the commitment the team. The results of these efforts are many, and in the past several years, they include doubling the number of businesses in the port to over 75 and tripling the number of jobs, which is at 2,700 and climbing. The businesses within Port properties create a \$1.2 billion impact on economic development for Kitsap County each year.

There are so many ways the Port affects the community through its investments in the marinas, airport, industrial lands, and parks. This last year the Port has worked with private and public partnerships to help fund major investments such as a marina breakwater to protect the waterfront of the City of Port Orchard, improved runway and lighting for the airport, new housing and parking facilities at the Bremerton marina waterfront, a multipurpose facility for airport support which includes a new dining facility, electric vehicle charging integration which will prepare for the future of electric boats and airplanes, and the list goes on.

So, please be proud of your Port and the people who work there, who are relentless on accountability that each of us performs to the best of our capabilities to make this Port as successful as it can be.

Sincerely,
Jim Rothlin



Port of Bremerton Receives Washington State's PORT OF THE YEAR HONOR



Each year, the Washington Public Ports Association (WPPA) selects one Port to honor as the Washington 'Port of the Year'. This award is given to the Port which shows the greatest success in the industry as a way to motivate new innovation continuously. On December 8, 2023, WPPA announced the Port of Bremerton as this year's recipient. Since our beginning in 1913, our goal has been to make the greatest possible impact on our

community while maintaining the integrity of what it means to be a public Port. We do this through our four facilities (Bremerton National Airport, Bremerton Marina, Port Orchard Marina, and Olympic View Industrial Park) while striving to increase economic development and improve local quality of life in Kitsap County. Receiving this award is recognition of the work we've always done, but particularly the accomplishments of the past year.

Being the largest Port in Kitsap County, we care about all of the ways in which we're able to impact life here. According to a recent study, we have created almost \$1.2 Billion in economic impact and provide approximately 2,700 jobs. Beyond those numbers, though, we also have a lot to be proud of when it comes to tangible attributions. For instance, we donate an average of 6700 pounds of nonperishable items each year to our local food banks, started an Earth Day initiative in partnership with the Great Peninsula Conservancy, help fund over 55 events each year, and helped in the creation of Seabeck's Pickleball courts. We ensure that every dollar we receive, from taxes or our facilities, are put to good use and given directly back to the community. To learn more about who we are, visit our website!

See our award IN-PERSON at our administrative offices, located at Bremerton National Airport. While we are proud of the work our team has accomplished, we never forget why we do what we do: our constituents. This award represents everything great in Kitsap County.



Port of Bremerton Marinas 2024 SEATTLE BOAT SHOW!

At the Port of Bremerton, we look forward to the fun that is the Seattle Boat Show every year. Much work goes into making sure we are presenting everything that not only the marinas, but Kitsap County has to offer. From displaying Visit Kitsap's tourism brochures to sharing the events Kitsap has year-round, and of course offering our varying moorage options, we love seeing new faces, past and present tenants, and others.

This year, we also had the added pleasure of unveiling our BRAND NEW booth! Upgrading to a backlit and colorful display, we were able to meet so many new people and share all that we have. Our stellar maintenance lead, Brian Robinson, hand-crafted aspects to our display so it fit our needs perfectly (including the custom 'Port of Bremerton' sign!).


**SEATTLE
BOAT SHOW**
INDOORS + AFLOAT

FEBRUARY 2-10

2024



If you missed out on the festivities, we hope you'll still visit us at one of our marinas, Bremerton or Port Orchard. Our team enjoys discussing updates to our construction projects (namely Port Orchard's new community center and our upcoming breakwater revival), but we also offer information on events, things to do in the area, and more. Whether by land or boat, we look forward to seeing you soon!

FOR BOATERS: Be sure to pick up the return of our STAMP CARDS, in office now.

RAFFLE PRIZES...

One of our favorite ways to give back to the community is finding tangible ways to directly support local businesses throughout Kitsap County. For this year's raffle prizes at the Seattle Boat Show, we offered two packages: Explore Bremerton & Explore Port Orchard. Explore Bremerton's featured gift cards to both Anthony's and The Boat Shed, as well as an array of items from the locally-crafted and -owned Frog Soap. Explore Port Orchard's featured gift cards to Brickhouse and The Dock Bar & Eatery, in addition to items from Revival (the sister shop of Josephine's Mercantile!). Our two winners for 2024 have already been chosen - thank you to everyone who entered!

Bremerton National Airport's Upcoming NORTHWEST AVIATION CONFERENCE

Find us at the upcoming Northwest Aviation Conference to learn about hangar updates, Amelia's Hangar, and development opportunities! Miss out on our stellar Seattle Boat Show raffle? Make sure to sign up for our next raffle at this show, featuring a gift card to Amelia's Hangar, located right here at Bremerton National Airport, as well as an array of goodies from the White Barn in Belfair.

Spot us by this year's backdrop! —>
Puyallup Fairgrounds | February 24th & 25th



Port of Bremerton's Commission CHANGING OF THE GUARD

Being a public agency, it is important that we remain impartial and consistently strive for what will be best for our entire community. One wonderful characteristic of how we achieve this is through the elections of our public commissioners. Each commissioner serves a five-year term, with the Port of Bremerton having three commissioners at any given time.

Our current commissioners, including their titles, term limits, and districts, can be found on our end page of every quarterly newsletter. The change? Previous Commission President Axel Strakeljahn was recently re-elected, now serving as our



Secretary. Our current Commission President was updated to Gary Anderson who will serve in that position for the next two years, until we cycle positions again. Commission Presidents have the honor and responsibility of leading our commission meetings, as well as taking the lead on our public and Port relations. To learn more about what we as a Port and our commissioners specifically do, be sure to tune into our biweekly commission meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month. Constituents can attend in person at Bremerton National Airport or online, with more information on our website.

Meet the Commissioners



Gary Anderson
President

Term: Jan. 1, 2020 -
Dec. 31, 2025

District 2: Downtown Port Orchard,
portions of Eastern South Kitsap



Cary Bozeman
Vice President

Term: Jan. 1, 2022 -
Dec. 31, 2027

District 1: West Bremerton, portions of
East Bremerton, Kitsap Lake, Chico



Axel Strakeljahn
Secretary

Term: Jan. 1, 2024 -
Dec. 31, 2029

District 3: Portions of South Kitsap,
Southwest Bremerton, Seabeck/Holly/Crosby

Did you know that you can attend commission meetings? Head to portofbremerton.org/commission-meetings for dates & meeting links!



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Direct contact for all things Port of Bremerton!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Join & tag us on socials - the best way to stay informed and interact! [@portofbremerton](https://www.instagram.com/portofbremerton)



Are you a tenant that wants to be featured by the Port?
Contact ericaf@portofbremerton.org for more info!