



PRESS RELEASE

915 Washington St. NE
Olympia, WA 98501

TEL. 360-528-8000
FAX 360-528-8090
Email: inquiries@portolympia.com

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Bob Van School, Port Commission President
Patti Grant, Communications Manager

(360) 902-1099
(360) 528-8012

Port Exhibit to be on Display at Thurston County Events in August

During the month of August, the Port of Olympia will host a traveling interactive exhibit about ports in the State of Washington. This six-kiosk exhibit entitled "Ports: Your Vital Link" will be on display at the Thurston County Fair from August 3 through August 7. There will also be information about the Port of Olympia, and Port staff will be on hand to answer questions.

The exhibit is also being featured at other venues throughout the county. It is scheduled at the Thurston Chamber Forum August 10, the Tumwater Chamber meeting August 16, the Olympia Community Center from August 22-26 and the Yelm Chamber meeting August 30.

The exhibit focuses on ports' roles in trade, economic development, jobs, environmental stewardship and recreation. All 76 of the state's ports are mentioned, and more than 30 are highlighted in the exhibit. Port of Olympia tenants and businesses are featured throughout the display.

"We are proud to have this exhibit come to Thurston County," said Port Commission President Bob Van School. "The kiosks provide a fun, interactive way for people to learn about ports, and we are excited to have this opportunity to talk with our community about the Port of Olympia."

The display was developed by the Washington Public Ports Association with financial support primarily from the ports of Tacoma, Seattle, as well as from the Port of Olympia and 20 other ports. This is the association's first statewide effort to provide information to the general public about ports and their role in the state. The exhibit will travel to ports across the state for the next five years.

"We're reaching out around the state with the message that ports really are economic engines in communities – creating jobs, new avenues of trade and recreational opportunities," said WPPA President and Port of Walla Walla Commissioner Paul Schneidmiller. "We're a 'vital link' in communities across the state."

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Note to editors: Exhibit photos available. For further information, contact Patti Grant at 360-528-8012. Thank you.