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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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Port of Olympia to Study Other Market District Parking Garage Options

The Port of Olympia has taken the option of a parking structure to be built in the Olympia Farmers Market parking lot off the table.

“There has been an unfortunate communication breakdown between Port staff and our important tenants and stakeholders regarding the proposed parking structure,” said Heber Kennedy, Port Property Director. “Moving forward, we will do a better job of gathering input and sharing information with stakeholders and the community.”

The Port Commission allocated \$200,000 in 2006 for study and design of a parking structure in the Port's Market District. The study was in response to the growing community need for parking in the area and to complete the vision outlined in the Port's Comprehensive Plan for the district.

The Port intends to continue to explore other locations for a structure. Planning discussions at this point are preliminary and no decisions have been made as to structure location or design.

“The Port has been a strong supporter of the Farmers Market and has worked with the City, Market and other Market District tenants successfully for over 10 years,” said Kennedy. “We hope they will continue to be active participants as discussions move forward.”

An advisory will be presented to the Port Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting September 11. The presentation will clarify project status and discuss next steps.

For additional information, please contact the Port at 360-528-8000.

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About the Port of Olympia

The southernmost deepwater port on Puget Sound, the Port of Olympia is Thurston County's partner in economic opportunity. The Port owns and operates a diversified international shipping terminal, an established niche facility that handles a range of breakbulk and project cargoes. The Port also owns and operates a strategically located regional airport, a vibrant 656-slip recreational marina and boat haulout/repair facility, and a thriving real estate division. A community port, it generates an estimated 2,600 jobs in Thurston County and indirectly over 5,000 jobs in Washington State. For more information, please call the Port at (360) 528-8000 or visit www.portolympia.com.