



## PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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## Port of Olympia Commission Candidate Finalists Announced

Port of Olympia Commissioners Bob Van Schoorl and Paul Telford announced finalists for the Commission position currently held by Commissioner Steve Pottle. Finalists are: Brent Evans, Joel Graham, Bill McGregor and Donald Melnick.

The two Commissioners met in Executive Session Friday, October 13 to consider applications from the fifteen people who had applied for the post. They also agreed to schedule special public meetings at 8:00 a.m., Wednesday, October 18 and 2:30 p.m., Thursday afternoon, October 19, at which time they will interview the candidates. Mr. Melnick is out of the country until November 12, and it is possible Commissioners will need to make a decision without an interview with Mr. Melnick.

The interview meetings will be held at the Port office, 912 Washington St., Olympia 98501. For directions, please see the Port's website at [http://www.portolympia.com/direct\\_main.htm](http://www.portolympia.com/direct_main.htm).

The Commissioners will meet again in Executive Session prior to the October 23 Commission meeting to consider the candidates' qualifications. They tentatively plan to announce a decision at the October 23 or the November 13 regularly scheduled Commission meeting.

"We received applications from a number of highly qualified Thurston County residents, and this decision has not been easy," said Commissioner Telford. "We appreciate their interest and hope they will continue to be interested in the Port."

Pottle announced in July that he would be resigning his Commission post to take a job as Manager of Economic Development for Snohomish County. He represents Port Commission District 2, which encompasses most of the Lacey area east of Martin Way and Sleater-Kinney, a small segment of eastern Olympia, Yelm and other eastern Thurston County areas.

As required by state law, the selection of a new Commissioner to serve until the end of 2007 will be conducted in public. In 2007, an election will be held to select a

Commissioner to serve the unexpired term that ends in 2009.

Commissioners Telford and Van Schoorl reserve the ability to modify the proposed schedule at any time as necessary to assure a fair and impartial process resulting in the best possible selection.

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