

THE NORTHWEST SEAPORT ALLIANCE
MEMORANDUM

MANAGING MEMBERS
STAFF BRIEFING

Item No.: 10A
Meeting Date: August 6, 2024

DATE: July 29, 2024
TO: Managing Members
FROM: John Wolfe, CEO
Sponsor: Jason Jordan, Director, Environmental and Planning Services
Cassandra de Kanter, Grants Specialist
SUBJECT: Grants Update

A. SYNOPSIS

Objective of Grants Update Briefing: To share awareness of grant planning and to seek regular feedback from the Managing Members on our grant pursuits. A Grant Steering Committee (GSC) meeting was held on July 9, 2024, where major grant opportunities were discussed, and general updates were shared by the grants team to Executive leadership staff.

B. BACKGROUND

In 2018, we adopted a Grant Procurement and Administration Procedure. The reason we developed the procedure is to recognize that the organization wishes to strategically pursue grants on a continuous basis.

The procedure establishes a process to:

1. Identify grant-eligible projects,
2. Recommend which grant-eligible project applications will be pursued and under which grant program(s),
3. Develop the data and information necessary for a competitive grant application for those projects, and
4. Ensure that grant-funded projects are administered and managed in compliance with grantor agency rules and regulations.

**C. PUBLIC WORKS AND ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE (PWEAA)
GRANT PROGRAM**

Background: The proposed project consists of decommissioning and removing an obsolete log debarker from the West Hylebos Terminal (Port of Tacoma parcel 105), a marine cargo terminal located in the Tacoma tide flats. The debarker is a two-story steel structure once utilized for scaling, sorting, and processing logs, primarily old-growth timber. The debarker has been out of service for more than a decade and now blights the West Hylebos Terminal. Removing the former

Weyerhaeuser debarker will open up 2+ acres of leasable property for more productive use on the terminal.

Funder: US Economic Development Administration (EDA) of the Department of Commerce; maximum award is \$30,000,000; minimum is \$100,000. Applications are reviewed on an ongoing basis.

Funder Goals for PWEAA Grants: Leverage existing regional assets and support economic development strategies that advance creative approaches to prosperity in distressed communities.

NWSA Project Recommendation:

- Apply to PWEAA grant program for the removal of the debarker
- Total project cost is \$4,520,162
- 50% match is required: \$2,260,081
- Continue to explore other sources potential funding for this project.

D. UPDATES

Application Submitted: WSDOT Port Electrification Grant Program
NWSA submitted an application titled *Plan Reducing Emissions Ship to Shore (or PRESS)* on 7/8/24 requesting \$2,648,030 toward planning and design for shovel-ready vessel shore power at the East Blair One (EB-1) Terminal in the Tacoma harbor. Proposed \$450,000 match, including \$150,000 of in-kind project administration costs.

Earmark Update:

- Representative Jayapal visited T18 on May 20th to discuss the NWSA request for funding for the Terminal 18 On-Dock Rail Restoration and Capacity Expansion.
- The House Appropriations Committee released their Community Project Funding Awarded Projects for the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill—the NWSA has been selected to receive \$500,000 through the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) program of the FRA
- Estimated total project cost is \$3.5 million and the NWSA asked for \$2.63 million via Rep. Jayapal's process.
- As it is likely the Alliance will receive only \$500,000, staff recommend repurposing this money towards *design only* and applying to a future round of CRISI for construction funding.

Partner Updates: Port of Seattle preparing one or two USDOT FHWA Charging & Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) applications. The City of Tacoma's \$7 million RAISE application for the design phase of the FWMB project was, unfortunately, unsuccessful. City staff are requesting a debrief with USDOT.

Other Updates:

Build America, Buy American (BABA) domestic preference waiver requests for USDOT grants: In January, staff submitted a waiver request for battery electric trucks to be funded by the NWSA FY22 CMAQ grant. The waiver was submitted through WSDOT and made its way through FHWA regional and national office. Currently, the waiver is with the White House Made in America Office. Government Affairs, Planning, and Air Quality staff met with AAPA staff to discuss the waiver, and AAPA followed up by sending the NWSA waiver request to the leadership of the DOT multimodal freight office, as well as the Staff Director on the U.S. House Transportation & Infrastructure Highways Subcommittee. AAPA specifically asked if they would inquire with the Made in America Office about the NWSA waiver and if they would highlight the challenges caused by the delay.

The NWSA's \$25 million application (*Wapato Creek Connect: Aquatic Connectivity Restoration Project*) to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience grant program was not successful. The proposed project is the same culvert work to be funded by the FHWA PROTECT grant currently in award negotiations.

E. LOOKAHEAD

- The next grants briefing will occur at the October 1, 2024 Managing Member Meeting.

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Grants Update Briefing



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Cassandra de Kanter
Grants Specialist


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Briefing Requested

Objective of Grants Update Briefing:

To share awareness of grant planning and to seek regular feedback from the Managing Members on grant pursuits.

- Public Works & Economic Adjustment Assistance (PWEAA)
- Government Affairs
- Post-Submission & Other Updates
- Look ahead – Major USDOT grants
- Look ahead – Key Dates & What's Ahead



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Public Works & Economic Adjustment Assistance

Federal Funder

- US Economic Development Administration (EDA) of the Department of Commerce
- Max award is \$30,000,000; min of \$100,000
- Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis

Funder Goals

- Leverage existing regional assets and support economic development strategies that advance creative approaches to prosperity in distressed communities.

NWSA Project Recommendation

- Removal of the debarker, a relic from former log yard, on Port of Tacoma parcel 105
- Total project cost is \$4,520,162
- 50% match is required, \$2,260,081
- Continue to explore other sources potential funding for this project



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Government Affairs

T18 Earmark request for *On-Dock Rail Restoration and Capacity Expansion*

- Representative Jayapal visited T18 on May 20th
- The House Appropriations Committee released their Community Project Funding Awarded Projects for T-HUD
 - NWSA has been selected to receive \$500,000 through the Consolidate Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI)
 - Estimated total project cost is \$3.5 million, we asked for \$2.63 million, and it looks likely we will receive only \$500,000
 - Staff recommend repurposing this money towards a scope of work commensurate with the award amount and that will benefit the tenant (SSA)



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Updates – Post Submission

Submitted: WSDOT Port Electrification grant program – NWSA submitted an application titled, “Plan Reducing Emissions Ship to Shore” (or PRESS) on 7/8/24 requesting \$2,648,030 for planning and design for vessel shore power at the East Blair One (EB-1) Terminal in the Tacoma harbor. Proposed \$450,000 match, including \$150,000 of in-kind project administration cost.

Not funded: NOAA Transformational Grants - NWSA applied for \$25 million toward the Wapato Creek culvert outfall project, and unfortunately our application was unsuccessful. Design and permitting will be funded by a FHWA Culvert AOP grant (\$2 million), and construction will be funded by a FHWA PROTECT grant (\$24.5 million).

EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) – NWSA was one of several sub-applicants to the PSRC’s application, with the Alliance’s request totaling \$52 million. Notified July 19 that the PSRC application was not selected for funding.

Ongoing: Build America, Buy American (BABA) waivers for USDOT grants

Partner updates: Port of Seattle preparing one or two USDOT FHWA Charging & Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) applications. The City of Tacoma’s \$7 million RAISE application for the design phase of the FWMB project was, unfortunately, unsuccessful. City staff are requesting a debrief with USDOT.



Updates – Post-Award

- Active Grants: 18 Grants / ~\$163M

- Pending Grants: 10 Grants / ~\$604M

Grantor	Status	Project	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
EPA	Pending	Accelerating Zero-Emission Technology Deployment at Pug...						499,982,542.00
EPA/Puget Sound Regional ...	Pending	Climate Pollution Reduction Grant - Accelerate Decarboniz...						52,000,000.00
US Dept of Transportation ...	Pending	FY24 Pierce County Terminal Efficiency Project			11,647,000.00			
WSDOT	Pending	Plan Reducing Emissions Ship to Shore or PRESS				2,648,030.00		
WSDOT	Pending	PSRC-Port Community System				1,500,000.00		
US Economic Development ...	Pending	Public Works Grant - Debarker		1,250,000.00				
NOAA	Pending	Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience					25,000,000.00	
EPA	Pending	Zero Emission Shipping Terminal (ZEST) Plan for East Blair ...				3,000,000.00		
USDOT-FRA - Earmark	Pending	T18 On-Dock Rail Retoration and Capacity Expansion						2,630,000.00
WA State Dept of Commerce	Pending	T5 North Reefer Substation			4,316,500.00			



Major USDOT Grants

Federal Railroad Administration (FRA): RCE NOFO expected soon

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA): Charging and Fueling Infrastructure reopened for a second round of funding; NWSA expects to support Port of Seattle application(s)

This year's round of Mega funding (the National Infrastructure Project Assistance program) is likely to be the last.



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Key Dates and What's Ahead

EPA expects to Clean Ports applicants by September 2024

MARAD will likely notify PIDP applicants in September or October 2024

Next grants briefing to the Managing Members: October 1, 2024



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Updates – Post-Award

- NWSA – South Harbor
 - Active Grants: 14 Grants totaling \$123,389,408

- NWSA - North Harbor
 - Active Grants: 4 Grants totaling \$40,141,233
 - Pending Grants: 2 Grants totaling \$6,946,500

- Gateway Wide - Pending Grants: 8 Grants totaling \$597,027,572
 - The \$597+ million figure includes the NWSA-led Clean Ports ZE Tech Deployment application (\$499 million) to which the PoT and PoS were sub-applicants and the PSRC-led Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) application, of which the NWSA ask was \$52 million