

Port of Tacoma Executive Director Search



Action Requested



Request the Port Commissioners vote to affirm the recommendation of the search committee and adopt Todd Coleman and Eric Johnson as finalists for the position of Port of Tacoma Executive Director.

- Since the formation of The Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA) in 2015, John Wolfe has been serving as the executive leader of both the Port of Tacoma and the NWSA.
- Per the transition plan the Port of Tacoma began a process in 2018 to hire an executive director.

Background Continued



- POT issued an RFP for Executive Search Firm in Oct 2018; Shey-Harding was selected in Dec 2018
- A search committee was created of:
 - Commissioner Clare Petrich
 - Commissioner Don Johnson
 - with staff support from:
 - Jean West - Chief HR Officer
 - Sue Dvonch - Shey-Harding
 - Carolyn Lake - Port's General Counsel

Key Dates and Milestones



Jan 7.	Kickoff meeting with Shey-Harding/Port of Tacoma
Jan. 22	Job posted/officially open
Feb. 27	Initial search close date and search committee review (conf. call)
March 8	Candidate review meeting (full commission, executive session)
March 26	Full Commission conducts first round interviews (executive session), followed by search committee meeting to recommend finalists.
April 11	Full Commission to recommend and vote on finalists (public session)
April 23	Finalist interviews (full commission, executive session)
April 24	Full Commission to meet in executive session to discuss finalist candidates, then meets in public session to vote on recommended candidate for offer



Port of Tacoma Executive Director finalist:

Todd Coleman

Todd Coleman currently serves as the Executive Director of the West Plains Airport Area Public Development Authority in Spokane County.

He also served in several executive capacities at the Port of Vancouver USA, including directing capital projects, serving as the Deputy Executive Director for seven years and leading as the CEO for four years.



Port of Tacoma Executive Director finalist:

Eric Johnson

Eric Johnson has served as the Executive Director of the Washington Public Ports Association since January of 2009. In that role he represents port district interests to state and federal elected officials, including the Washington legislature and state agencies.

In addition to government relations, he is responsible for numerous specialized seminars and conferences.

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