

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
THE FABULICH CENTER, ROOM 104  
3600 PORT OF TACOMA ROAD, TACOMA, WASHINGTON**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

1. Dick Marzano, President
2. Don Meyer, Vice President
3. Clare Petrich, Secretary
4. Don Johnson, 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Secretary
5. Connie Bacon, 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Secretary

**STAFF PRESENT:**

1. John Wolfe, Chief Executive Officer
2. Carolyn Lake, Port Counsel
3. Judi Doremus, Executive Assistant
4. Erin Galeno, CFAO

**11:00 AM: COMMISSION STUDY SESSION:**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

- A. Flag Salute

**2. AGENDA:**

**A. Port of Tacoma Strategic Plan:**

1. With the formation of the NWSA in 2015 a large portion of the Port of Tacoma's work has shifted to the alliance, and there was a desire to formulate a new Port of Tacoma's Strategic Plan.
2. The focus of this meeting will be the timing and scope of this project.
3. A retreat with the Commission was proposed to dive deeper into the potential future for the Port of Tacoma. A port authority's limits, what is possible and the current assets will be reviewed.
4. Defining the Port of Tacoma is the first step. The need to have a clear separation between the Port of Tacoma and the NWSA.
5. The timing of the search for a new Port of Tacoma CEO, separate from the NWSA, was discussed, and whether that should follow or precede the updated Strategic Plan.
6. Purpose of a strategic plan was discussed. This needs to be flexible and responsive to guide business decisions.
7. Commission requests seeing the strategic plans of the city and the county to see where the Port could enhance and improve the plans that are already in place. Each governing body has a different function. The Port's function is economic development and bringing jobs to our community.
8. Functionality of the Port of Tacoma versus the functional responsibilities of the NWSA were discussed.
9. The retreat will be done in Pierce County and will be open to the public. It will be an all-day session and may be multiple days.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Public Comment:**

Deb Blakeslee: She would like to know how the Port defines its key stakeholders. She would like to see a true accurate definition of key stakeholder. The public doesn't always clearly know what the port does. There needs to be good input from citizens reflected in the Strategic Plan.

Steve Storms: He lives in NE Tacoma. He is afraid that the Commissioners are so emotionally tied to the LNG plant that they can't see new information. He reviewed the Port of Tacoma's strategies. The City is allowing the residential areas to creep into industrial areas, and something has to be done to accommodate both sides. We don't want to shut the port down, but the noise from pile driving is causing problems. The strategic plan is a place to address this. He would like to have lines of business that are not dangerous and not polluting.

Suzanne Williams: She is a NE Tacoma and Fife Heights resident. She appreciates the comments that these decisions are for the future. It can be challenging to balance economic development and environmental protection. She stressed the importance of citizens in the planning process. The proximity of homeowners to the port is an issue and there is not a healthy separation. She has great concerns for the resulting health and environmental issues. She encouraged the Commission to take a very deep dive into those issues. Home owners want to move toward a more sustainable, environmentally responsible future. Finding this balance requires being innovative and creative and will take extra work to find business with a smaller environmental footprint, but in the long run it will be worth the effort. She wants to see residents have a voice in this process.

Irma Duran: She lives in NE Tacoma. To have an effective SWAT analysis, you do need to include your stakeholders. The first part of a SWAT analysis focuses on an organization's internal strengths and weaknesses, and then you look at what is going on outside of the organization. She feels that one of the weaknesses that should be included is the sales pipeline for the property development that is going on in the Port because I don't think there is any strong sales pipeline strategy and a plan that is executed for industry and businesses that we want in the Port that are good for our environment, have a history of following regulations and higher standards and would bring good jobs to our area. That should definitely be looked at. We also need some type of buffer zone between NE Tacoma and heavy industry.

Nanette Reece: She lives in NE Tacoma and is one of the Co-Chairs of the NE Tacoma Council, along with Yvonne McCarty. Nanette encourages the Commissioners to reach out to Yvonne. They had a recent meeting that included the Fire Department and Citizens for a Healthy Bay. She invites the Port to come to council meetings and be a part of this as well. NE Tacoma residents feel like they are under siege. She feels there has been a lack of transparency from the City and the Port for the last year and a half. She asked how the public can ensure adequate representation as a stakeholder in the strategic planning update. When the City took down Asarco residents were so excited at the direction Tacoma was going, becoming a cleaner community. Our soil was contaminated by this industry. It is still contaminated. Parts of the Superfunds sites have not been cleaned up adequately. Now we are adding industry. She asks if we are doing the best practices that we can. She understands that the Port is an economic engine, but how can we employ best practices for everyone involved that include our health, our air quality? What you do here as a handful of people affects all of us and our quality of life. The City zoned NE Tacoma as residential. It is not our fault that we are there. People make comments that you live next to a port; get used to it. Those are insensitive comments. We want to be partners. We want a sustainable economic engine, but we also want a safe and healthy environment. She hopes the council can work closely with the Port in the near future to realize that vision.

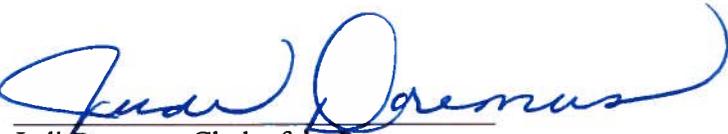
**4. ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, President Marzano adjourned the meeting at 12:13 pm.

  
Richard P. Marzano, President  
Port of Tacoma Commission

ATTEST:

  
Clare Petrich, Secretary  
Port of Tacoma Commission

  
Judi Doremus, Clerk of the Port  
Port of Tacoma