

Port of Tacoma Local Economic Development Investment Fund

Pacific Seas Aquarium

Commissioner Erik Hanberg
Parks Board, Metro Parks Tacoma

Sue Mauermann, Interim Executive
Director, The Zoo Society

The  Society
POINT DEFIANCE ZOO & AQUARIUM

Purpose:

- Thank you for your generous grant of \$50,000 from the Port of Tacoma Local Economic Development Investment Fund
- Background on the Zoo Society
- Background on the Aquarium and the Tidal Surge Exhibit
- Describe the value

The Zoo Society:

- 501(c)3 non-profit fundraising organization
- Supports the Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium (Metro Parks Tacoma)
 - Financial
 - Volunteer
 - Community

Pacific Seas Aquarium:

- Replaces the 54-year-old North Pacific Aquarium
- Over \$51M
- 35,000 sq./ft., state-of-the-art building
- Connecting people to conservation







Tidal Surge:

- 4,500-foot channel; moving wave-action habitat



Value to the mission:

- Economic development
- Environmental stewardship
- Community partnership

Five cool things about PDZA:

- Founded 16 years after Washington became a state
- Home to more than 14,400 animals representing 527 species
- Home to oldest male polar bear on the planet (likely)
- National leader in captive breeding for the endangered red wolf
- Second most visited year-round attraction in Pierce County

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