

MEETING MINUTES

Port of Tacoma Commission



REGULAR MEETING

May 7, 2026 - 12:00 p.m. Public Session Start

Fabulich Center, Room #104: 3600 Port of Tacoma Road, Fife

The Port of Tacoma Commission met for a regular meeting on **May 7, 2026**, at the Fabulich Center, 3600 Port of Tacoma Road, Room 104, Fife, WA.

CALL TO ORDER | EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commission President, Dick Marzano, called the meeting to order at **10:00 a.m.** Also present at the start of the meeting were Commissioners Kristin Ang, Deanna Keller, and John McCarthy. A quorum was met. Commissioner JT Wilcox joined the meeting at 10:03 a.m.

Commissioner Marzano announced the Commission would meet in Executive Session until **12:00 p.m.** to discuss:

- One (1) Minimum Price of Real Estate Lease Item RCW 42.30.110(1)(c)
- Three (3) Potential Litigation Items RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)

Eric Johnson (Executive Director—Port of Tacoma) stated the factors allowed to be discussed during Executive Session in relation to lease of real estate are as follows: size and zoning of the property, distance from and connectivity to deep-water marine terminals, potential for job creation and consistency with the Strategic Plan.

PUBLIC SESSION –

1. RETURN TO ORDER & FLAG SALUTE:

Commission President Dick Marzano returned the meeting to order at **12:00 p.m.** and stated the Commission met in Executive Session from **10:00 a.m.** until **11:10 a.m.** to discuss the items noted previously. The public session began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Marzano thanked everyone for being here today and acknowledged that we are situated on the traditional homelands of the Puyallup Tribe, who steward these lands, and stated the Commission considers the Tribe to be a partner in many of the efforts we undertake.

Commissioner Marzano also recognized May 2026 as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, acknowledging the achievements and many contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to our community.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Commissioner Marzano sought approval of the agenda. There were no suggested changes. The agenda was approved unanimously as presented.

3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Eric Johnson

- **Maritime | 253 Student & Family Sneak Peak** – The Tacoma School District is hosting a tour for prospective students and their families scheduled for May 28, 2026 from 4-6pm.
- **Building & Grounds Maintenance Department Recognized** – The department was thanked for cleaning up trash and graffiti at the Dick Gilmur boat ramp.
- **Ports & Popcorn Event** – The event tonight at 6:30pm features two speakers from ILWU Local 23.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Daffodil Queen Annika (from Eatonville High School), Anitra Sudderth & Bob Sudderth with the Daffodil Festival thanked the Port for the partnership, support, and spoke of this year's theme of "Bloom Where You're Planted." Queen Annika presented the Commission and staff with a Daffodil pin reflecting the theme.
- Jared Faker (President—ILWU Local 23), Matt Thoma (ILWU), Holly Hulscher (ILWU), Dax Koho (ILWU), and Meghan Mason (ILWU) spoke in opposition of a tenant improvement request from Husky Terminal to automate the identification of shipping containers, a job currently executed by union workers. A petition signed by 4300 individuals was presented to the Commission.
- Commissioner Marzano stated that the Commission does not respond to each comment, but appreciates the information and comments provided for future consideration.

5. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approval of the minutes for the 3/31/26 and 4/21/26 meetings.
- B. Disbursement Certifications during the period of 4/10/26 to 4/22/26:
 - 1. Check numbers 5416 to 5428 and 5430 to 5531 in the amount of \$9,983,886.70, and electronic payments in the amount of \$700,686.05 for a total of \$10,684,572.75.
 - 2. Check number 5429 in the amount of \$747.83 to the State Auditor's Office.
- C. Workforce Development Strategy—2026 Update
- D. Delegation of Authority to Executive Director to Approve Settlement Agreements for 4818, 4824, & 4826 Marine View Drive Lease Terminations

MOTION 1: Approve the Consent Agenda items 5A, 5B-1, 5C and 5D as presented.

Motion was made by Commissioner Ang and seconded by Commissioner Keller.

VOTE MOTION 1: Motion Carried 5-0

Commissioner Ang	Aye	Commissioner Marzano	Aye
Commissioner Keller	Aye	Commissioner Wilcox	Aye
Commissioner McCarthy	Aye		

MOTION 2: Approve the Consent Agenda item 5B-2 to the State Auditor's Office.

Motion was made by Commissioner Wilcox and seconded by Commissioner Keller.

VOTE MOTION 2: Motion Carried 4-0-1

Commissioner Ang	Aye	Commissioner Marzano	Aye
Commissioner Keller	Aye	Commissioner Wilcox	Aye
Commissioner McCarthy	Abstain		

6. COMMISSION ACTIONS:

A. Neptune (Parcel 117) Environmental Clean-up & Pre-development Improvements Project Construction Authorization

Elly Bulega (Project Manager II – Engineering) presented on behalf of the Port. This project is twofold: remediate the autofluff contamination and fill the onsite wetlands to eradicate the invasive Mediterranean Vineyard Snails. The project will also help prepare Parcel 117 for future development.

MOTION: Approve project authorization for a remediation cap and snail eradication construction work in the amount of \$2,570,000 for a total authorized amount of \$3,210,000, for work associated with the Neptune (Parcel 117) Environmental Clean-up and Pre-development Improvements, Project ID #101690.01.

Motion was made by Commissioner McCarthy and seconded by Commissioner Ang. Discussion ensued.

VOTE: Motion Carried 5-0

Commissioner Ang	Aye	Commissioner Marzano	Aye
Commissioner Keller	Aye	Commissioner Wilcox	Aye
Commissioner McCarthy	Aye		

B. Tacoma School District Interlocal Agreement (ILA) #4: Supporting Maritime Education & Training

Alisa Praskovich (Chief—External Strategy Officer) presented on behalf of the Port. The Maritime Center is a shared campus. This ILA provides a governing framework of how the Port may provide resources, and support activities, instruction and training. Both parties will establish a liaison for coordination of these efforts.

MOTION: Approve authorization for the Executive Director to enter into a fourth Interlocal Agreement (ILA) between the Tacoma School District and the Port of Tacoma to provide guidelines and a governing framework for how the Port may provide resources, support activities, instruction and training to Maritime 253 staff and students to enhance learning and support certification in maritime industry-related fields.

Motion was made by Commissioner Keller and seconded by Commissioner Ang. Discussion ensued.

Sean Eagan (Director—Government & Community Affairs) spoke to the liaison coordination efforts and when the Commission would be involved in decisions, specifically around financial components.

VOTE: Motion Carried 5-0

Commissioner Ang	Aye	Commissioner Marzano	Aye
Commissioner Keller	Aye	Commissioner Wilcox	Aye
Commissioner McCarthy	Aye		

C. Commission International Travel—November 2026

Alisa Praskovich (Chief—External Strategy Officer) presented on behalf of the Port. Two trips will be considered through this request. The International Association of Ports & Harbors (IAPH) annual meeting is in London, England in November. This is a global scale conference. The Association of Washington Business (AWB) 2026 Trade Mission to South Korea and Japan is also in November. AWB focuses on trade partner relationships. Individual costs for each trip were presented.

MOTION 1: Approve Commission international travel in November 2026 for the IAPH Conference in London, England.

Motion was made by Commissioner Ang and seconded by Commissioner Keller. Discussion ensued.

VOTE MOTION 1: Motion Carried 5-0

Commissioner Ang	Aye	Commissioner Marzano	Aye
Commissioner Keller	Aye	Commissioner Wilcox	Aye
Commissioner McCarthy	Aye		

MOTION 2: Approve Commission international travel in November 2026 for the Association of WA Businesses (AWB) 2026 Trade Mission to South Korea and Japan.

Motion was made by Commissioner Keller and seconded by Commissioner McCarthy. Discussion ensued.

VOTE MOTION 2: Motion Carried 5-0

Commissioner Ang	Aye	Commissioner Marzano	Aye
Commissioner Keller	Aye	Commissioner Wilcox	Aye
Commissioner McCarthy	Aye		

7. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS: None

8. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Port of Tacoma Commission Code of Governance & Conduct

Commission Marzano spoke on the Commission Code of Governance and Conduct. It was last revised in 2022. The recommendation is for the Commission to revisit this in June. Commissioner McCarthy provided some comments that will also be disbursed to the entire Commission before the discussion in June.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Bylaws Committee – Heather Burgess (Port Legal Counsel—Dickson Frohlich Phillips Burgess Law) spoke to suggested changes provided in the meeting packet. Feedback from the Commission regarding the proposed changes was sought. Discussion ensued.

B. Audit Committee – Baker Tilly and the State Auditors Office reported their findings. The Port received good audit reports. The next committee meeting is scheduled for October and will address the upcoming financial statement audits. The audit reports were complimentary of staff and their work. Discussion ensued.

10. ISSUE BRIEFINGS:

A. Port of Tacoma Harbor Transportation Briefing

Ryan Medlen (Senior Planner) presented on behalf of the Port. The presentation focused on the roads in the Tacoma Tidelands. The presentation reviewed key points where trucks enter or exit the tidelands. About 20-25% of the trips made are contained within the tidelands. Areas of congestion were reviewed along with the status of adopted Port priority projects. Additional projects affecting transportation around the Port were also reviewed. Priority projects are advancing as funding allows. Discussion ensued.

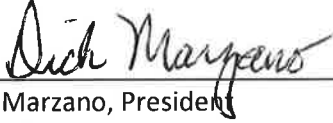
Sean Eagan spoke to the Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB) rolling 6-year investment strategy.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMENTS:

- A. Commissioner Ang** — Wished everyone a Happy Mother's Day. She recognized the NWSA & Port environmental staff for their work with presentations at upcoming conferences. She is proud of the team's leadership with regard to environmental issues.
 - B. Commissioner Keller** — Spoke on her travel as part of the Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) delegation to Alaska.
 - C. Commissioner McCarthy** — Thanked Commissioner Keller for her PNWER delegation travel and keeping the relationship going with Alaska. He is pleased to hear of the 260 students enrolled in the new Maritime |253 Skills Center program.
 - D. Commissioner Marzano** — Thanked Katie Skelton and Leslie Barstow thanked for organizing the Ports & Popcorn event. Feedback from public has been positive.
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12. ADJOURNMENT: Commissioner Marzano adjourned the meeting at **1:47 p.m.**

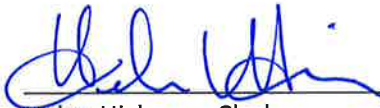
ATTEST:



Dick Marzano, President
Port of Tacoma Commission



Kristin Ang, Secretary
Port of Tacoma Commission



Helen Hickman, Clerk
Port of Tacoma