

Item: 6D

Date: 10/15/24

Middle Blair Maintenance Dredging Construction Project Authorization

Norman Gilbert, PE

Project Manager II

Port of Tacoma Commission Meeting

Date: October 15, 2024



- 1) Request project authorization in the amount \$4,000,000 for a total authorized amount of \$4,000,000, for work associated with the Middle Blair Maintenance Dredging, Project ID #101692.01.
- 2) Request Port of Tacoma Commissioners dedicate Section 2106 / Harbor Maintenance Tax (HMT) funds to fund the full eligible costs of this project.

- Sediments have accumulated at critical locations from the “Knuckle” northwest to an area approximately even with Lincoln Avenue, posing a navigation hazard to vessels transiting that reach of the waterway.
- This issue requires the terminal operator of Pierce County Terminal (PCT), Everport Terminal Services, to “light-load” vessels or wait for WUT to boom up their container cranes.

- This critical impairment to operations is causing safety hazards, risk of vessel damage, and economic losses for the Port and the NWSA tenants; therefore, maintenance dredging to restore waterway and terminal operations to full capacity is needed.
- Due to sediment testing results, all or portions of the dredged sediment will require upland disposal. Staff are currently working on requesting clarification of this with the DMMP.

Background



- The scope of the project is to complete a maintenance dredge addressing “high spots” that impact the project area. The scope of work under this authorization is to bid and construct the maintenance dredging.
- The scope of work includes:
 - Bidding of Public Works maintenance dredge construction contract
 - Perform maintenance dredge construction project
 - Close out project and permits

Project Details

Activity	Timeframe
Advertise for Bid	Late October/Early November 2024
Substantial Completion	By February 14, 2025
Final Completion	March 14, 2025

- The total project cost including all stages is estimated at \$4,000,000.
- The total estimated cost of the Construction for this project is \$4,000,000. If the cost of this estimate is anticipated to exceed the authorized amount, additional Commission authorization will be requested.
- The total estimated sales tax to be paid to local and state governments for this project is \$375,000.

Financial Summary

Item	This Request	Total Previous Requests	Total Request	Total Project Cost	Cost to Date	Remaining Cost
Construction	\$4,000,000	\$0	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$0	\$4,000,000
Project Total	\$4,000,000	\$0	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$0	\$4,000,000

Source of Funds

The current Capital Investment Plan (CIP) allocates \$4,000,000 for this project.

The disposal of contaminated soil associated with the dredging in the channel is HMT eligible and will be funded from the Port's 2024 Section 2106 / HMT funds. As of October 2024, the Port's 2106 / HMT funds balance is shown in the table below:

Funds	Balance
2106	\$3,300,000
HMT	\$23,590,000
Combined Total	\$26,890,000

- Completing this project will return unrestricted transit along the Blair Waterway which will relieve impacts to terminal operations and maintain current jobs.

- Alternative 1) Do nothing. Impacts to terminal operations will remain.
- Alternative 2) This request. Eliminating the impact to transit of cargo along the Blair Waterway and expends Port HMT funds.

Alternative 2 is the recommended course.

- Permitting: This work will require 404/Sec10 permits from the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), 401 Certification from Ecology, Site Use Authorization from Washington Dept. of Natural Resources (WDNR), Hydraulic Project Approval from Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW), and formal exemptions from the City of Tacoma. This work has been consulted with the Puyallup Tribe. The Federal permitting timelines are tight, but the agencies are aware of the urgency of the work (PCT Maintenance Dredge and Middle Blair as a package) and are working towards our timelines.

- Remediation: Sediment was tested, and preliminary dioxin/furan results do not meet open water disposal screening levels. The levels are below industrial levels for upland use.
- Stormwater: Upland work is associated with this effort and dewatering efforts will be closely coordinated so as not to discharge impacted water into surface water without proper treatment.
- Air Quality: No new emissions will be generated by this work except short-term emissions during the dredging work.

- 1) Request project authorization in the amount \$4,000,000 for a total authorized amount of \$4,000,000, for work associated with the Middle Blair Maintenance Dredging, Project ID #101692.01.
- 2) Request Port of Tacoma Commissioners dedicate Section 2106 / Harbor Maintenance Tax (HMT) funds to fund the full eligible costs of this project.



Thank You

Questions & Discussion



Norman Gilbert, PE
Engineering Project Manager II
NGilbert@portoftacoma.com