

ACTION ITEM MEMO

Port of Tacoma Commission



Item No: 6B
Meeting Date: 7/16/26

DATE: July 7, 2026
TO: Port of Tacoma Commission
FROM: Eric Johnson, Executive Director
Project Managers: Alisa Praskovich—Chief, Special Projects & Commission Relations and
Erin Galeno—Chief, Financial & Administrative Officer
SUBJECT: Interlocal Agreement #5 with Tacoma School District - Security Services

A. ACTION REQUESTED

Request authorization for the Executive Director, or his designee, to enter into Interlocal Agreement (ILA) #5 between the Tacoma School District (District) and the Port of Tacoma (Port) for Security Services associated with the Maritime Skills Center and the Port Maritime Center.

Strategic Plan Initiative:

WD 1: Identify opportunities to utilize Port-owned properties in partnership with local and regional organizations to facilitate maritime industry career development.

WD 2: Partner with government and local and regional organizations to facilitate career development through financial investments.

B. BACKGROUND

The Port employs trained security personnel to protect Port-owned properties. Members of the Port security team may carry firearms as well as Tasers or equivalent devices in the course and scope of performing their duties.

The Maritime Skills Center, which will open to students in September, is located on Port-owned property and co-located on a single campus with the Port Maritime Center. RCW 9.41.280 prohibits carrying or possessing firearms and other dangerous weapons on school premises. However, RCW 9.41.280(3)(b) provides that this prohibition does not apply to any person engaged in military, law enforcement, or school district security activities.

Since the Skills Center is located on Port-owned property and is adjacent to Port facilities and operations at the new Port Maritime Center, the Port and the District understand that Port security personnel may need to respond or intervene in the event of an emergency, performing a school district security function. ILA #5 memorializes this understanding between the District and the Port and provides a legal basis for the Port security team to carry firearms as well as Tasers or equivalent devices on the Maritime Center campus in compliance with RCW 9.41.280(3)(b).

C. NEXT STEPS

Upon Commission approval, the Port will proceed with final signatures.

D. ATTACHMENT

- Interlocal Agreement #5 – South Puget Sound Maritime Skills Center & Port Maritime Center – Security Services