

COMMISSION AGENDA

Item No: 4A

Meeting: 05/11/17

DATE: April 26, 2017

TO: Port Commission

FROM: John Wolfe, Chief Executive Officer
Sponsor: Jason Jordan, Director, Environmental and Planning Services
Project Manager: Eric Hanson, Senior Planner, NWSA

SUBJECT: General Business: Climate Change and Resiliency Planning

A. BRIEFING REQUESTED

Staffs from the Port of Tacoma, The Northwest Seaport Alliance, the University of Washington and City of Tacoma will provide an update on climate change and resiliency planning. No action is requested.

B. BACKGROUND

The City of Tacoma, in partnership with Washington Sea Grant, is developing a more refined analysis of sea level rise along the Washington Coast, including more site specific information for Commencement Bay and the Tacoma Tideflats. This information will be used to assess vulnerabilities and to develop better planning and statewide guidance for site design, capital facility planning, and ecological restoration near shorelines. Port of Tacoma staff participation in this endeavor is a certainty. The City's effort is being managed by Mr. James Parvey, Chief Sustainability Officer for Tacoma's Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability. Mr. Parvey will brief the Commission on the objectives, scheduling and funding of this ongoing endeavor. This briefing also invites Guillaume Mauger, Research Scientist for the University of Washington Climate Impacts Group to provide a broad perspective of climate change issues as they relate to our region and ports.

Adapting for climate change has become a priority for government agencies and particularly for agencies that manage large capital infrastructure and budgets. Residing on shorelines, it is prudent for port authorities to think long term regarding the many aspects of potential impacts that ports may face in the future.