



Foreword From Port Commissioner

Cary Bozeman

Kitsap County is now experiencing a population and jobs boom. People are moving here from King County and around the country, the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard is growing, and our population of around 250,000 could reach 400,000 in the next 25 years. With this growth our community will experience both opportunities and challenges. In this piece I would like to point out five challenges that I believe we will face as a community in the next 25 years.

Leadership: With the challenges that will come with growth, will come the need to make good long range decisions by our community leaders. These decisions will not be easy and will require political courage and working together to solve problems.

Affordable Housing: In the last few years we have seen a major increase in our housing cost. The average home in Kitsap County a very few years ago was around \$300,000, today it would be hard to find a single family home for that price. Apartments a few years ago rented for about \$900 per month for a one bedroom, that same apartment today is over \$1200 per month. City and County officials and the development community must develop a regional housing plan that includes providing affordable housing for middle and lower income families.

Ferry Service: The WSF system seems to be in the middle of a service crisis. Service in Bremerton has been cut in half, many times the boats don't run on schedule, we are still running boats that are over 50 years old and our rates keep going up. The cost of building new ferries is almost double the cost that was budgeted by WSF and today there is no sure schedule on when new boats will be brought into service. WSF must act and save this once world class ferry system.

Public Safety and Homelessness: One cannot turn on the local TV news without hearing about people being robbed or being shot almost every night in many of our neighboring cities. With our increased population growth our community could also experience this kind of public safety challenge. Many parts of our community are beginning to see more and more of an increasing homeless population. These are both very difficult challenges but now is the time to act, plan, and attempt to get ahead of the challenge. It will require additional resources. We want our citizens to feel safe and we want to provide appropriate housing for people in need.

Health Care: With a growing population we will need more doctors, nurses, beds, and emergency care options.

Growth is a good thing, it brings more jobs and opportunities for people along with many other positive things for our community. Growth will also bring challenges that can only be met by people making smart, caring, courageous decisions that support a quality of life for our future.



Port Orchard Marina Welcomes US Secretary Pete Buttigieg



On Thursday, July 06, we at the Port of Bremerton were proud to host US Secretary Pete Buttigieg, Governor Jay Inslee, Senator Murray, Senator Cantwell, and Representative Kilmer at our Port Orchard Marina. We were also joined by officials from the Suquamish Tribe and Kitsap Transit for the press conference celebrating the \$9.4 million in federal funding that we were awarded to help fund the replacement of our breakwater.

With having now received a total of \$15 million in funding for Port Orchard Marina's



breakwater, and the breakwater now being fully funded, we were happy to have an afternoon with those that made it possible. Pictured to the left is Port CEO Jim Rothlin and Port Commissioners Strakeljahn, Anderson, and Bozeman with Secretary Buttigieg.

CARY BOZEMAN PLACE AT MARINA SQUARE

On July 18, Commissioner Bozeman was honored by Marina Square, located at Bremerton Marina, with the dedication of 'Cary Bozeman Place'. Having spent his career working to better communities and provide functional public spaces, this tribute is well deserved.

Along with local city elected officials and members of the public, Commissioner Bozeman was celebrated by Port CEO Jim Rothlin and Port Commissioners Anderson and Strakeljahn.



WINGS OVER WASHINGTON AIR SHOW AT BREMERTON NATIONAL AIRPORT

The Wings Over Washington Air Show held on August 19th & 20th at our Bremerton National Airport was a vibrant success! This event, featuring a military-centric theme, was the first aerial air show at Bremerton National Airport in over 30 years and did not disappoint. People were wowed by the Canadian Armed

Forces Skyhawks, the array of planes including the PBY, Cascade Warbirds, F8F, T-28s, P-51, SU-29, and T-33, among others, and the racing Jet Car. For more images and information from the event, check out our social media! @portofbremerton Since the event, we have been receiving much positive feedback about our participation. The participation of our tenants, Avian Flight Center, Collins Historic Aircraft Foundation, Olde Thyme Aviation, and Amelia's Hangar were also fundamental to the success of the air show. Even cooler?



Our very own Port Commissioner Axel Strakeljahn and CEO Jim Rothlin received the honor of being Grand Marshalls, making it even more special. Overall, we hope you're looking forward to next year as much as we are - it's sure to be even bigger & better!

Bremerton National Airport Hosts Angel Flight West Fly-In

It is the honor of the Port of Bremerton to be able to use our facilities and resources to help local organizations and nonprofits, with that of Angel Flight West being no different. On Saturday, July 22, we hosted this nonprofit at Bremerton National Airport in partnership with our tenant, Avian Flight Center, for their Washington Fly-In. Here they gathered current and interested pilots to discuss their work of providing free medical transportation to those in need, a cause we wholeheartedly support. To learn more of their organization, please visit their website: angelflightwest.org.



The Sweetest Part of Summer Coming to Bremerton Marina: Bremerton Blackberry Festival

For years, the Bremerton Blackberry Festival has been a focal point for the Kitsap County community, marking Labor Day Weekend as a time to celebrate all things blackberry. More than 15 food items toting the delicious berry namesake, 80 other assorted vendors, live music, and more decorate the Bremerton Boardwalk and 2nd Street in Downtown Bremerton for the weekend's festivities.

We at the Port of Bremerton are proud to help fund this encompassing event, particularly as it comes from the same producers as the awe-inspiring Bremerton Bridge Blast - they clearly have a way of creating 'explosive' events! For all the event details and times, please visit the event's website or Facebook page... We hope to see you out there this year; September 2-4!



Ahoy, Port Orchard Marina! Lady Washington Dockings

The beautiful Lady Washington is known as a replica of the iconic 1787 ship and has been making waves while touring the West Coast, including to our very own Port Orchard Marina. Here, our community loves the ship for not only it's stature, but it's well-informed tours and own history - notably, the ship has starred in a



number of films: Pirates of the Caribbean, Star Trek, Once Upon a Time, and more. Perfect for people of all ages and interests, Lady Washington is always a welcomed sight for the Port of Bremerton...so much so that the ship held dockings at both Port Orchard and Bremerton Marina for Summer 2023. She will be back for another 'splash' from roughly September 23 - October 29 at Port Orchard Marina; stay tuned for more details!

Photo of Lady WA at POM by J. Louis King.

Meet the Commissioners



Axel Strakeljahn
President

Term: Jan. 1, 2018 -
Dec. 31, 2023

District 3: Portions of South Kitsap,
Southwest Bremerton, Seabeck/Holly/Crosby



Gary Anderson
Vice President

Term: Jan. 1, 2020 -
Dec. 31, 2025

District 2: Downtown Port Orchard,
portions of Eastern South Kitsap



Cary Bozeman
Secretary

Term: Jan. 1, 2022 -
Dec. 31, 2027

District 1: West Bremerton, portions of
East Bremerton, Kitsap Lake, Chico

Did you know that you can attend commission meetings? Head to portofbremerton.org/commission-meetings for dates & meeting links!



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Direct contact for all things Port of Bremerton!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

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Are you a tenant that wants to be featured by the Port?
Contact ericaf@portofbremerton.org for more info!