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Community Report

A NEWS UPDATE FROM THE



Port of Vancouver USA

FALL 2023



New Renewable Energy Commodity Coming to the Port

A new green energy commodity is headed to the Port of Vancouver USA. In a move that adds jobs and economic durability to the Vancouver community, the port recently announced a deal to become a key global exporter of soda ash.

By 2026, the port will handle up to 2 million tons of soda ash coming by rail from Green River, Wyoming—the world's largest natural soda ash producing region.

Soda ash is used in a range of products from soap, to glass, to rechargeable batteries, making it a critical ingredient for producing solar panels and electric vehicles.

The port already handles copper ore that has a variety of uses in the sustainable energy transition, helps move Subaru vehicles that include its emission-free Solterra model, and serves as the West Coast's largest entryway for

wind energy components.

"Adding soda ash to our diverse product mix equates to more jobs here locally and more economic stability for Vancouver in the years ahead, while simultaneously solidifying our role as the 'green energy port,'" said the port's Chief Commercial Officer Alex Strogen. "This new opportunity is great news for our community."



Green Energy Gateway: The Port of Vancouver USA is finding economic success by moving key minerals for rechargeable battery and solar panel production, wind energy equipment and popular electric vehicles like the Subaru Solterra.

A Port "Reinvention" Brings Benefits to Vancouver

Julianna Marler, CEO

When people think of "ports," they usually picture massive ships and towering cranes moving cargo.

Those ships carrying a diverse mix of commodities are vital to our success. However, once ships were no longer able to use our Terminal 1 location—where prunes, grains and

wooden ships were once moved a century ago—we reinvented our vision for that site.

Inside this issue, you can read how we've begun removing pieces of our century-old Terminal 1 dock (and why building in the Columbia River takes a bit longer). We're replacing it with a new dock capable of supporting a 40,000 square foot public market.

Creating a public market where people can eat at local restaurants, shop at local businesses and gather is new for us—but we're not alone in adding to the role of ports. Drive up I-5 and you'll see

the Port of Kalama's nearly-finished Mountain Timber Market, and the Port of Camas-Washougal is planning its Hyas Point development.

While the over-the-water location of our project will take longer to build, it will be worth the wait!

The Port of Vancouver USA will continue handling massive wind blades, grain, our newest product soda ash (read about that above!) and more for years to come. But we couldn't be more excited to add a public market to the economic benefits we provide the community.



Harmony in Flight: The Triumph of the Purple Martin Habitat Program

In the heart of the Pacific Northwest, amidst the bustling Port of Vancouver USA, cheerful chirps filled the air this summer as purple martins returned to nest.

This year was special for these migratory birds who visit the port's wetland area each year. In past years, volunteers under a federally-issued permit carefully placed unique bands on each hatchling to track this important species.

In 2023, however, the state's wildlife agency saw enough progress to determine that tracking was no longer needed.

This success followed collaboration among organizations throughout the Northwest. For the past 12 years, the port has partnered with Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge bird experts and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to increase Southwest Washington's purple martin population. Each

year an increasing number of these charming aerial acrobats have found sanctuary in the port's Columbia River Wetland Mitigation Bank

A once modest colony has burgeoned, with more than 60 birds successfully hatching at the port in 2023. Over the years, the port and its partners improved the man-made nesting gourds—and the population flourished.

"The port is excited to see such a great improvement in the population of purple martins year over year," said port Environmental Manager Matt Graves. "Although we will not be banding and tracking in the years to come it's great to know it's due to the program's success throughout the state."

For the port, this sanctuary demonstrates that industry and preservation can indeed coexist.



Click here or scan the QR code to see hatchlings inside the gourd.



Port Distributes \$10,000 to Community Organizations

The port's Community Fund program makes \$10,000 available each year to organizations that support the port's mission of job creation and economic development. Three organizations were selected to receive funds in 2023.

non-traditional and marginalized entrepreneurs. This program aims to help these small businesses become successful at the market and beyond.

WHY COMMUNITY

The WHY Community received \$2,500 to support approximately 100 free registrations for a variety of community runs and fitness events held during the year. These events bring 15,000 people

The port has opened the 2024 application process and we look forward to funding additional worthy school and community projects. To learn more and to apply, please click here or scan the QR code.



VANCOUVER FARMERS MARKET

The market received \$2,500 to continue its Market Assistance Program which provides free booth space and training to



to the Vancouver community and generate over \$5 million in local economic activity. Port funds were used to provide free registrations for children, veterans, cancer survivors and other at-risk groups.

FOUNDATION FOR VANCOUVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS – CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

The Construction Trades Program at Hudson's Bay High School received \$5,000 toward construction of multiple projects. Students will work with industry professionals to learn all aspects of construction including electrical, plumbing, and HVAC.



Last year the students completed construction of a shed on campus with the help of the Community Fund and are tackling more ambitious projects this year.



Have you been wondering what's going on with the empty area at Terminal 1?

The project to replace the century-old dock has begun. This dock is the birthplace of the port and has served many purposes over the years and a new dock will support a future public market.

On the Columbia River, work is confined to site-specific "in-water work windows" during which threatened and endangered salmon species are least likely to be present. These windows are determined by federal and state agencies with the goal of minimizing construction impacts on aquatic life. For this project, the in-water work window occurs from October 1 through January 31 over a three-year period. The project will be constructed in three phases:

PHASE 1
(October 2023–January 2024)

Phase 1 will see the demolition of the existing dock and removal of nearly 1,000 old wooden pilings—most of which date back to the 1920's. Old pilings were often treated with creosote, which can leach into the river and impact aquatic life. This project will remove these treated structures from the river.

PHASE 2
(October 2024–January 2025)

In Phase 2 crews will work on upland ground improvements; rebuilding the bulkhead wall

where the dock meets the shoreline and regrade the slope, all of which will help stabilize the

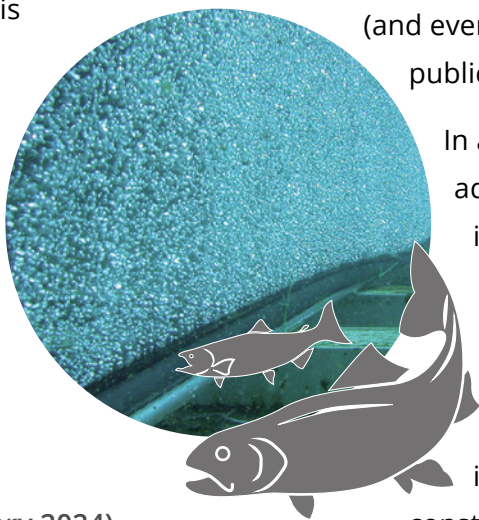


new structure during a seismic event. A fish-friendly gravel and/or coarse sand substrate will also be installed.

This substrate provides salmon and other fish species improved habitat to forage for food and stay safe from predators.

PHASE 3
(October 2025–January 2026)

Phase 3 is where approximately 200 steel piles will be installed to support the new dock (and eventually, the public market).



In addition to adhering to the in-water work windows, another way we are reducing impacts from construction noise

on aquatic life is with "bubble curtains." While the steel piles are being driven into the ground, compressed air will be pushed through perforated pipes surrounding the work area under the water. This compressed air will form a ring of bubbles floating upward, creating a dense air wall that helps diffuse underwater noise that occurs from the installation of the new piles.

We're excited to get to work and move one step closer to bringing a public market to Vancouver's waterfront!

Port Supports Summer Activities

Clear skies and warmer weather are hallmarks of the summer here in the Pacific Northwest and it's a great time for the port to get out and spend time with our local community. This summer, in addition to sponsoring several events around the city, we spent an evening at Fruit Valley Park for the city's free summer movie series. We also made our way east to LeRoy Haagen Memorial Community Park for the annual National Night Out. Port staff also came together to donate \$600 worth of school supplies to the Foundation for Vancouver Public Schools' annual "Write from the Start" supply drive. We love being a part of such a vibrant community!



Join us for the 2024 Port Lecture Series

Join us in early 2024 for our free public lecture series to learn about the port, our river system and the role ports play in our communities. We explore everything from the maritime industry to global trade and the many interesting jobs that keep cargo moving.

Dates and speakers soon to be announced – scan the code below to learn more!



Kiggins Theater
1011 Main St
Vancouver, WA 98660

portvanusa.com/community/events
Click here to learn more

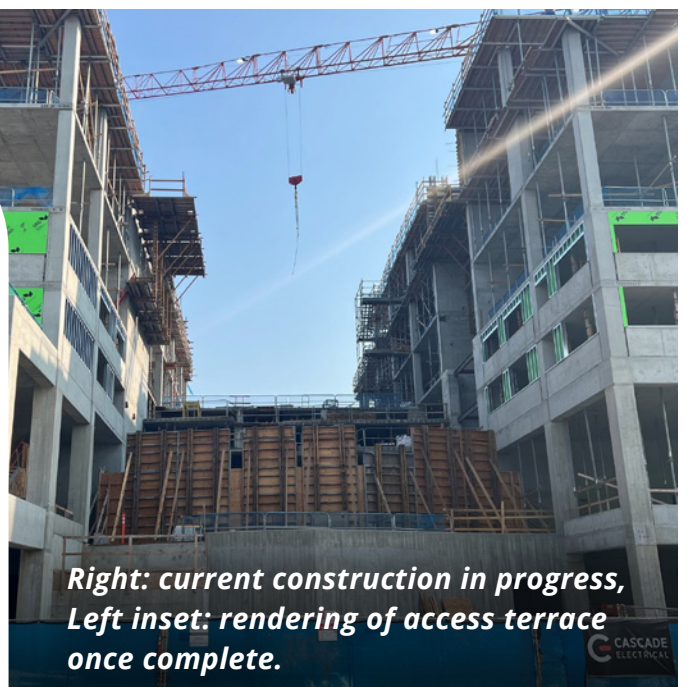
Learning together

That's the Port of Vancouver USA.



ZoomInfo Construction

Construction is “zooming” along for the future headquarters of ZoomInfo at Terminal 1. The framework is taking shape for “The Launch,” an access terrace which will connect the two buildings and have views of the river. Once completed, the four-story building will bring nearly 3,000 employees, retail and parking to



Right: current construction in progress, Left inset: rendering of access terrace once complete.



Port Wraps Up Summer Tour Series

Another successful free public tour season wrapped up on a Saturday in late September. This summer brought over 450 visitors through the port. Tours filled up within a few weeks of the schedule announcement and each date had a waitlist. Tours began at the port’s administration office and featured a briefing about the Columbia Snake River System and how cargo moves on the river, an overview of the port’s commercial and industrial operations, the port’s budget and governance and a look at current projects. After the briefing, participants boarded a bus for a behind-the-scenes look at the port’s marine terminals, rail infrastructure and industrial facilities. Our public tours will continue in 2024, with dates announced early next year.

To get more information about taking a port tour, and to sign up for early notification, click here, or scan the QR code and subscribe to the port’s tour email list.



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To speak to the commissioners by telephone, please call the port office at 360-693-3611 for contact information.

Written comments can be addressed to:

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Follow Us on Instagram!

Follow @portvanusa for stunning photos and fun facts about trains, grains, cranes and all the great work we do here at the Port of Vancouver USA.

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