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# Community Report

A NEWS UPDATE FROM THE



Port of Vancouver USA

SPRING 2023



**Julianna Marler**  
CEO

## Our 2023 Port Report is Live!

Each year, we deliver our Port Report update to the public. We highlight those achievements that make our community proud, like being the West Coast's top gateway for wind energy components, and exporting enough grain to fill 2,000 Olympic-sized pools.

However, this year's Port Report was unique. It reflected how we constantly work to adapt and improve.

Prior to COVID, Port Report was a slide show at the old Red Lion at Terminal 1. When the pandemic hit, we turned to video.

The process of capturing our highlights on film showed us how compelling the port, our Longshore workforce and tenant businesses came across on video.

So in 2023, we combined the best of both experiences. This year's Port Report is once again a video, but we returned to Terminal 1 for its live-audience premier—this time at the beautiful new AC Hotel by Marriott.

People enjoyed being taken via video inside our tenant business, Trobella Cabinetry, to see the production process. The sights and sounds of the marine terminals brought to life the 7.3 million tons of cargo we moved last year.

Our Instagram feature (back of this newsletter) and portvanusa.com link to the 12-minute video. I hope you take a few minutes to watch and experience the amazing work that happens here.

Just like with our Port Report, we'll keep adapting, changing, and growing to better serve this region in the years ahead.



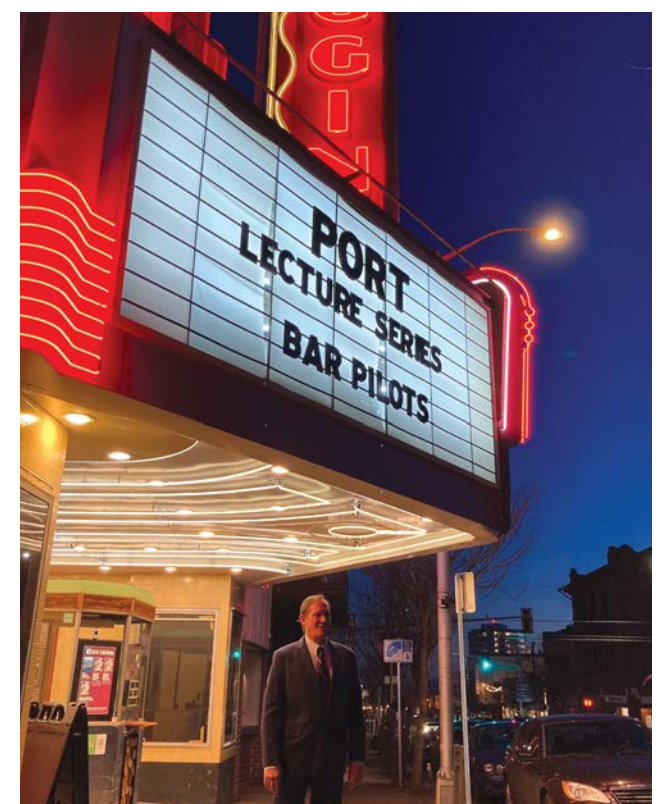
## Port Lectures Return

The port's popular public lecture series resumed this spring after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic. Attendees were excited to gather again to learn more about the maritime industry and hear from a variety of speakers. The lectures took place at the historic Kiggins Theater where everyone enjoyed delicious fresh popcorn, a variety of beverages and pizza too.

This year's lectures kicked off with Captain Dan Jordan who mesmerized the crowd with an inside look at his job as a Columbia River bar pilot. Next up was Lori Otto Punke, president of the Washington Council on International Trade. Given Washington's ranking as the most trade dependent state in the U.S., Lori shared important information about trade, tariffs, and top state imports and exports. Winding up the series was Alex Stroger, the port's chief commercial officer, who spoke about the port's marine business, our 50+ commercial tenants and the importance of the Columbia/Snake River System in moving cargo.

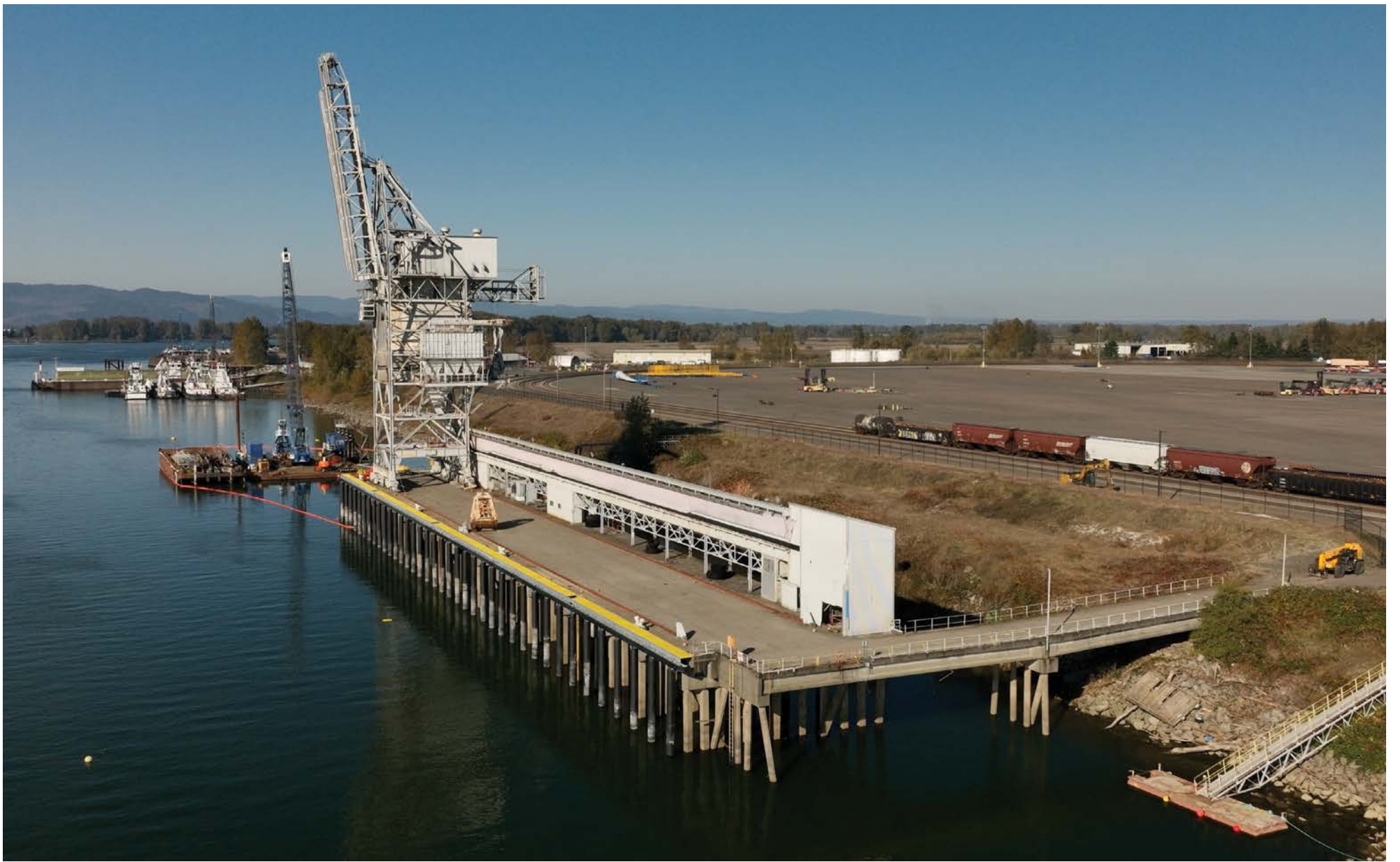
When asked if she would recommend the lectures to others, one attendee responded: "Yes! It's the opportunity to see great things

happening here. You learn to appreciate how everyday lives are affected by trade and all the different work being done at the port." We couldn't say it better ourselves! Watch for next year's lectures to be announced in early 2024.



*Top photo: Chief Commercial Officer, Alex Stroger discusses POV's marine business*

*Bottom Photo: Columbia River bar pilot, Captain Dan Jordan speaks at the first lecture of the series*



*A decade of improvements and the addition of shore power positions Berth 17 as an important hub for international trade.*

## New Life, More Jobs at Port's Berth 17

When the port acquired the former Alcoa Aluminum site in 2009, it included the Berth 17 river access point and dock – which might've looked like its glory days had passed. After all, it had been many years since the site was hurriedly producing aluminum for World War II airplanes. By the late 2000's, the aluminum smelter had closed, and the area was contaminated from decades of industrial activity. Aged infrastructure had grown out-of-date.

But thanks to a decade of improvements since the port took ownership, Berth 17 will soon be a hub of economic activity once again.

By end of 2023, the Port of Vancouver's \$13 million investment in Berth 17 will:

- Remove aged infrastructure including an old crane and building on the dock
- Establish new moorage points and upgrade "dolphins" (that help keep ships in place) from wood to steel and concrete
- Install new fenders that ensure visiting ships and dock infrastructure are both well-protected

The port will also install shore power for vessels. This important upgrade eliminates the

need for ships to run their engines to maintain power while docked. The port is adding shore power as part of its Climate Action Plan and will continue to expand this capability in the years to come.

Eighteen local supplier and contractor businesses are working on Berth 17, which means before the renewal is even completed, it's supporting local jobs.

In the port's continued mission to generate economic activity, the Berth 17 renewal is an important chapter.



## 2023 Community Fund

The port's Community Fund will assist three organizations in 2023. Funds will go to the Vancouver Farmers Market and its Market Assistance Program; Foundation for Vancouver Public Schools Career and Technical Education Program; and WHY Community to help at-risk populations with free fitness event registrations. Pictured are students who built a shed at Hudson's Bay High School with assistance from port funds in 2022. Community funds support projects and programs that align with the port's focus on trade promotion, tourism generation, economic development and workforce development.

# Port Assists LCEP with Grattix Project

Rainwater is a key element in the Earth's water cycle which is essential to life on Earth. But what happens when rain comes in contact with metal or shingled roofs before running off into the ground? Roof runoff can pick up contaminants from these roofs, including heavy metals used to discourage moss growth and then carry those contaminants to nearby waterways. In 2008, two talented port employees invented what is essentially a rain garden in a box to help purify roof runoff—and the results have been incredible. The Grattix (named for inventors Matt Graves and Mary Mattix) uses layered filtration materials and native plantings to remove unwanted contaminants in water runoff from roofs and downspouts. Although low-tech, low-cost, and low-maintenance, the Grattix system is extremely effective in lowering concentrations of heavy metals zinc (90-95%) and copper (85%) at project sites.

Part of the port's mission is to educate others about the benefits and provide resources and support so other organizations can build their own Grattix boxes. Most recently, the port assisted the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership (LCEP) as it applied for and received a \$67,000 grant from the Environmental Protection Agency to build and deliver a number of Grattix boxes. LCEP volunteers, with guidance from port staff, built 20 Grattix boxes earlier this year for delivery to specific sites. The boxes are now being used at industrial businesses along the Columbia River from Scappoose, OR to Rainier, OR and on the Washington side of the river from Woodland to Longview, WA.

The port continues to be a source of information and support in stormwater treatment, making instructional materials readily available and partnering with various organizations in the pursuit of clean water.



*Volunteers do some heavy lifting to create the Grattix layers necessary for water filtration*



## Construction Underway

In 2022, the port completed a sale of three acres in Centennial Industrial Park to Nu-Tech Machining—a company that machines precision parts for customers in the U.S. and internationally, who manufacture and test computer chips. Construction is currently underway on the first of two buildings planned for the site with an anticipated opening in late summer. Nu-Tech will occupy two-thirds of building 1 and American Machine & Gear, a company that performs laser cleaning, will occupy half of building 2. Both companies are subsidiaries of Duffy & Kinne, Inc. They plan to lease the remaining space to other businesses. Nu-Tech currently has 14 employees with immediate plans to grow that number.

## The Public's Vancouver Landing Turns 1!

It's been a year since the port unveiled its Vancouver Landing destination on the waterfront.

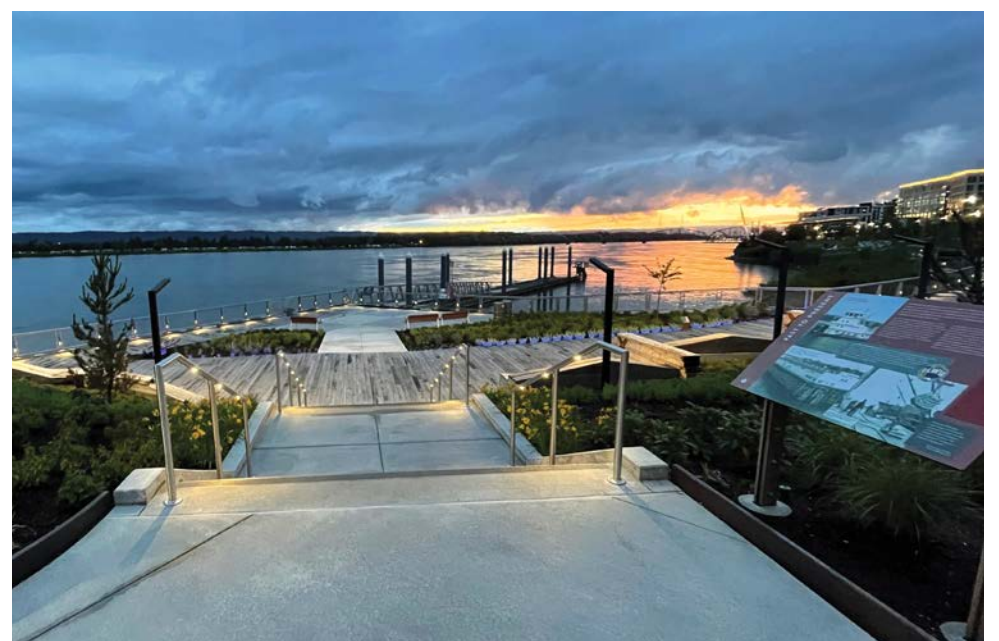
Making this public area a seamless extension of existing waterfront was by design. When construction fencing came down in 2022, a new portion of the pedestrian-focused Renaissance Trail guided visitors to the new location.

In addition to the incredible vistas, Vancouver Landing features:

- The Rotary Way boardwalk with a timeline of past events
- Interpretive panels displaying the history of Clark County, Vancouver, and the indigenous peoples of the area
- A concrete-embedded map of the Columbia River

At Vancouver Landing the public has a premier view of river commerce and recreation, and a front row seat to what's next at Terminal 1.

Happy first birthday, Vancouver Landing!

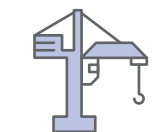


# 2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

Proficiency in handling bulk and break-bulk cargoes continues to position the port to utilize its best assets, including the ability to handle large-sized shipments such as wind energy components.

 **82,200** AUTOS IMPORTED

 **4,800,000** metric tons of GRAIN EXPORTED | 100% OFFSET OF ELECTRICAL USAGE in port utility-controlled buildings

 **94,000** HOMES POWERED by wind turbines crossing port docks

**7.3M** METRIC TONS OF CARGO


 **68,300** RAIL CARS

**406,000** metric tons of SCRAP METAL EXPORTED

**99%** INDUSTRIAL OCCUPANCY

**521,500** HOURS WORKED BY ILWU LONGSHORE 

Generates millions of dollars in local wages and spending in our community

 **285,800** metric tons of COPPER CONCENTRATE EXPORTED

**361** VESSEL CALLS | **56,000** metric tons of ALUMINUM IMPORTED

 Top trading partners: CHINA, SOUTH KOREA, MALAYSIA, JAPAN, AUSTRALIA | **86%** EXPORTS | **14%** IMPORTS

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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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Board of Commissioners  
3103 NW Lower River Road  
Vancouver, WA 98660



**Instagram**

**portvanusa**

**Julianna Marler**  
Chief Executive Officer

**102 likes**

**portvanusa** The 2023 Port Report is here! Scan the QR code to watch the video highlighting port activities in 2022 and see what's on the horizon for your port of possibility.



## Follow Us on Instagram!

Follow [@portvanusa](https://www.instagram.com/portvanusa) for stunning photos and fun facts about trains, grains, cranes and all the great work we do here at the Port of Vancouver.

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