

# Port Report



JANUARY 2023



## STERNWHEELER UPDATE

The Sternwheeler Columbia Gorge has completed its 2022 Holiday Excursion Schedule in Portland and returned to its home in Cascade Locks, where it will winter for the next two months. In March, the vessel will move to Vancouver for its scheduled dry docking to complete its U.S. Coast Guard Hull and Paddle Wheel Inspection. While there, new port and starboard grid coolers, piping, grounding guards, and transducer will be installed. The vessel will be painted from the waterline to the deck edge. The Port also is considering the addition of bow thrusters to improve mobility when docking the vessel. The Port's procurement of new engines – paid for with American Rescue Plan Act funds directed to the project thanks to Hood River's State Senator Chuck Thomsen – has been completed. Scheduling for the port-funded repower project is underway. As it has since 1983, the Port maintains its commitment to keep the Sternwheeler operating in Cascade Locks and supporting its mission of drawing tourism, preserving local history, creating jobs, and enhancing the region's economic development.

## STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN

The Port of Cascade Locks will begin updating the Strategic Business Plan over the next several months. The new plan will chart the course for the Port's future priority projects and investments. All Oregon Ports are required to update their Strategic Business Plan in order to qualify for state economic development funding. Consultants, Moss Adams, will help develop these plans while working closely with staff and commission.

## OPEN BUDGET COMMITTEE SEATS

The Port would like to extend a thank you to the citizen members of the budget committee that volunteer their time and input to help create and adopt the annual budget for the Port. The current members are Diana Reedy VanWinkle, Rob Peterson and Albert Nance.

*Thank You!*

There are two more open positions on the budget committee. The Port Commission is accepting letters of interest from residents to serve on Port's Budget Committee. Letters of interest should be submitted to the Port Commission at:

[okaganova@portofcascadelocks.org](mailto:okaganova@portofcascadelocks.org)

Questions should be directed to Olga at 541-374-2407 or [okaganova@portofcascadelocks.org](mailto:okaganova@portofcascadelocks.org)

## LEGISLATIVE ASK

The Oregon legislative session has started and the Port of Cascade Locks has a bill going that requests \$6M to fund seismic strengthening work on the Bridge of the Gods. This bill, SB 815, is being sponsored by Senator Bonham, Senator Gorsek and Representative Helfrich. The Port of Cascade Locks' ask is small in comparison to the requests coming for the Hood River bridge and I-5 bridge. Additionally, The Port will also be seeking matching funds from Washington legislature.

*The Port of Cascade Locks is a business-friendly engine for economic development*



PO Box 307  
 427 Portage Road  
 Cascade Locks, OR 97014  
 541-374-8619  
 portofcascadelocks.org

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## RESOLUTION NO. 2023-1

On January 5th, the Port Commission approved a new resolution that declares the use of all toll funds comply with requirements of Title 23 by the year 2030. Title 23 is a federal regulation that requires tolling revenue to be utilized by the tolling facility, which would allow the Port of Cascade Locks to be eligible for federal funds for bridge preservation projects. The Port Commission has been dedicated to making Port programs self-sustaining and lessening the reliance on bridge tolls in order to preserve and extend the life of the bridge.

## WELCOME JOANNE

In January, the Port welcomed Joanne Wallace as the new Receptionist-Clerk. She will be helping customers at the front desk with BreezeBy accounts and various other tasks. We're excited to have her on board with us.



### DATES TO TAKE NOTE OF:

- Feb 2.....Port Commission
- Feb 8.....Gorge-ous Night in Olympia
- Feb 14.....Economic Dev. Sub-Committee
- Feb 15.....Gorge-ous Night in Salem
- Feb 16.....CL Action Team
- Feb 16.....Port Commission
- Feb 20.....Presidents Day - Port Office Closed

If you have further questions on meeting times or locations, contact our office at 541-374-8619 or visit portofcascadelocks.org.

## LIBRARY EXPANDS EVENTS FOR CHILDREN

The Hood River County Library is adding more events for children. Parent Playgroups are starting at the Cascade Locks Library. Each Friday at 10:30am parents are invited to come with their children to explore the library, help kids build social skills, and make new friends. The last Friday of the month in Cascade Locks will have a librarian-led story time.

## GORGE-OUS NIGHTS

OneGorge Advocacy Group will once again be hosting legislative receptions at each state capitol. Gorge-ous Night in Olympia is on Wednesday, February 8th from 5:30pm-7:30pm at the Washington State Capitol Building. Gorge-ous Night in Salem will be on Wednesday, February 15th from 5:30pm-7:30pm at the Willamette Heritage Center. These events are open for all to attend and are a great opportunity for us to reach out to our lawmakers and remind them who we are, where we are and why we matter in our unique Bi-state region! If you would like to participate in these events, reach out to Brittany at bberge@portofcascadelocks.org to find out more.

**Wednesday, February 15, 2023**  
**5:30 - 7:30 PM**

Mission Mill, the Spinning Room  
 Willamette Heritage Center  
 1313 Mill St. SE  
 Salem, OR 97301

## OFFICE CLOSURE

The Port Administration office will be closed on Monday, February 20th for Presidents' Day. The Office will reopen the following day on Tuesday, February 21st.



## HOT JOBS

**Multiple Positions Available**  
*Lignetics Group (Bear Mountain)*  
 Email [jmoore@lignetics.com](mailto:jmoore@lignetics.com) to find out more.

**Cashier / Stocker / Etc.**  
*Columbia Market*  
 Starting at \$14.50  
 Stop in to apply.

**Meat Cutter**  
*Columbia Market*  
 Wage based on experience  
 Stop in to apply.

**Multiple Positions Available**  
*Gorges Beer Co.*  
 Contact [jobs@gorgesbeer.com](mailto:jobs@gorgesbeer.com)

**Multiple Positions Available**  
*Thunder Island Brewing*  
 To apply, visit:  
[thunderislandbrewing.com/jobs](http://thunderislandbrewing.com/jobs)

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