



THE PORT REPORT

Port of Bremerton Newsletter • Summer 2024

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Foreword From Port Commission Vice President Cary Bozeman

There is a reason the Port of Bremerton in 2021 was awarded the Washington State Public Port Association's (WPPA) "Job Creator of the Year" and again last year in 2023 was recognized by the WPPA as the "Port of the Year". We have an outstanding leader in our CEO Jim Rothlin, who this year will complete his 10th year as the CEO of the Port of Bremerton. As one of three Port of Bremerton elected commissioners, I have admired Jim's leadership skills and the steady hand he moves our organization forward. Jim brings a background in business and financial management and has a BA Degree in Finance and a Master's degree in Business Administration from San Jose State University. Jim also takes the time to serve on the Washington Public Ports Association's Executive Committee. During his ten years with the Port of Bremerton, Jim has put together an outstanding management team.

Jim's outstanding management team includes Arne Bakker, the Chief Operations Officer, Aaron Schielke, the Chief Financial Officer, James Weaver, the Director of Marina Operations, Kathy Garcia, Marina Operations Manager, James Goodman, Director of Facilities and Property Development, and Cole Barnes, our new Airport Manager. We also have a great staff who support these various departments. In my opinion, we have a strong team of people who work every day to support the mission of the Port of Bremerton and who always look for ways we can grow and get better as an organization, as evidenced by the tremendous growth we have experienced in the past five years.

Today, the Port of Bremerton is busy and growing; we have 65 different companies that employ over 2,500 port-related jobs. At our Airport, we have over 150 Hangars with a waiting list, and at our two Marinas, we have 790 slips, which are mostly full. The Port companies did over 450 million dollars in sales and paid out 137 million in labor income. The Port accomplishes all of this activity with a relatively small staff of less than 40 people. It is my belief the Port of Bremerton is successful because of having a very strong leader in our CEO Jim Rothlin and a hard working and dedicated staff. The Port of Bremerton makes a difference in our community and I am proud to be a part of the TEAM.

Sincerely,
Cary Bozeman
Port of Bremerton Commissioner



As we end the year, thank you!

Port of the Year

The Port of Bremerton accomplishes what it does thanks to everything that it is: our elected officials, our employees, our tenants, and YOU. Our constituent's support and opinions greatly shape our operations. As the largest Port in Kitsap County, we take our role of generating economic development and improving local quality of life extremely seriously. As we close 2024, we wanted to take a moment to sincerely thank everyone for the last 111 amazing years. So, thank you!



A Special Visit...

Dog Is My Copilot



Bremerton National Airport received a special delivery this September... The non-profit organization 'Dog Is My Copilot' transported more than a dozen dogs from an over-crowded shelter in California to our very own Kitsap Humane Society! It's always a joy to see how our community utilizes our airport, and this was no exception. If you're interested in adopting a furry friend, we encourage you to learn more about Kitsap Humane Society!



Port Introduces New CFO: Aaron Schielke



The Port is pleased to share that we have hired a new Chief Financial Officer, Aaron Schielke. Schielke comes with the experience of being the CFO for Martha & Mary in Poulsbo and currently serves as the Treasurer for the Olympic College Foundation.

Hired in July of 2024, Scheilke has already proven to be an asset on our Port team as we dive into our 2025 budget season. Tune into our upcoming Commission meetings to hear more from him!

Recap of the Bremerton Air Show!

©Steve Hayes



With attendance to the Bremerton Air Show, which took place August 17-18 at Bremerton National Airport, soaring to well over 9,000 people, it is safe to say the event was a raging success! This two-day extravaganza featured world-class aerobatic flying, military collections, free children's activities, food vendors, and, of course, both the US Navy and Canadian Royal Jet Teams! If you missed the show, you missed the highlight of our Summer. Don't miss out on 2025's

activities by signing up for news from the Port today: www.portofbremerton.org/news

The Port received amazing coverage of the show, in part showcased here. We also want to extend a huge thank you to all whom made the show possible: our partners in the Bremerton Air Show, Bremerton Police, South Kitsap Fire, the incredible performers, those in attendance of the show, and beyond. Thank you!

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©Isaak Hammers

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Behind the Hangar Doors Publication

If you haven't been keeping up with our Behind the Hangar Doors publication, you're missing out! We feature one pilot based at Bremerton National Airport each month in an effort to celebrate everyone's unique stories. If you're a pilot, you'll find people that you can relate or aspire to. If you're not, you'll hear how a niche community develop their skills and balance a demanding lifestyle with their family and careers.

We have featured six pilots as of this newsletter's issuance, with our latest revealing insider information from the Bremerton Air Show... This issue featured Drew Blase, pilot of the Marchetti aircraft in 2024's event!

Investing in Community & Capitol Projects At Bremerton National Airport

We are excited to report that construction is now complete on the Port of Bremerton's old airport fire station. The building, initially built in 1974, has finished its long-awaited makeover. PECC Construction of Kingston and Integrity Roofing of Poulsbo did an outstanding job installing new exterior siding, roofing, windows, trim, and paint. In addition, they installed new solar mounts on the south side of the building. Later this fall, 12 solar panels will be installed, marking the Bremerton Airport's first solar-powered building.

On the other side of the airport, we have been working to update our systems that aid pilots in their navigation. These projects included relocating the lights on the end of our runway, replacing our MALSR system, and upgrading to LED bulbs. Such improvements drastically improve their functionality to our pilots, making for safer & easier conditions to land in. Even better? These upgrades were paid for by the FAA!

Exploring Opportunities: Airport Feasibility Study

Our community has expressed interest in the Port of Bremerton exploring the feasibility of introducing limited air passenger or freight commercial activities at the Port of Bremerton's Bremerton National Airport. The Port is now in the early stages of this study and have a strong interest in receiving input from the community . The goal of this work is to understand the potential market opportunities and impacts of new services and to share what we learn with our community.

The Port's focus is on analyzing prospects for regional air transportation that would create minimal impact to the surrounding area.

Mead & Hunt, a very experienced consulting group in airport evaluations, is working with the Port to develop an approach to the study, and this fall we are beginning conversations with our community. Look for information and a survey on our website this fall, with an in-person event later this winter.

The results of this study and the community feedback will be shared with the Port Commission in early 2025 to help them make an informed decision on next steps, if any.

We will continue to share information throughout this process, which is expected to be complete in 2025.

You can find updates on our webpage - www.portofbremerton.org - and via social media - @portofbremerton. You can also email us at airportstudy@portofbremerton.org.

Change for Good Soil Remediation on Bay Street



The Port of Bremerton purchased a stretch of property on Bay Street, located in downtown Port Orchard, in 2020. After review, the Port found that the soil of these properties was contaminated, marking the properties as ‘brownfield’ sites. In an effort to remediate the neglect of past owners, the Port is working with the US Environmental Protection Agency to clean the site. To date, in partnership with the EPA & the Washington State Department of Ecology, the Port has completed test drilling of the site. Work on these properties is paid for by a grant awarded to the Port by the EPA in 2023.

Moreover, the Port has worked with the two prior leasers, Western Washington Center for the Arts and Air Anderson, Inc., to move their operations. Both buildings of these prior tenants are slated to be removed so soil remediation can commence, and the project is estimated to be completed by the end of 2024. The Port is committed to practicing safe and sustainable operations at all of their facilities and recognize the additional responsibility of operating waterfront properties. This remediation is in line with efforts of ‘going green’ and being stewards of the community. The Port has no plans of what these properties may become once the site is cleaned – stay tuned to our biweekly Commission meetings for further information.

Helping Hands | September 23 - November 29 2024 Fall Food Drive!

We’re proud to organize a food drive each Fall, and this year is no different. We ask our neighbors to join us in collecting donations for our community with a particular goal of filling our Food Banks’ most needed items: Dried Goods, Canned Produce, Canned Proteins, Baby & Pet Supplies, and Special Diets. For more information on the drive and our requested donation categories, visit our social media @portofbremerton or email ericaf@portofbremerton.org!

Donations are benefitting Bremerton Foodline & South Kitsap Helpline.

PORT OF Bremerton
2023 Port of the Year

FOOD DRIVE

September 23 - November 29
→ Bremerton Foodline & SK Helpline

DROP OFF LOCATIONS:
Bremerton Marina
Port Orchard Marina
Bremerton National Airport
Amelia's Hangar Restaurant & More!

For more information, contact:
ericaf@portofbremerton.org

Summer Fun at the Marinas



Bremerton Bridge Blast



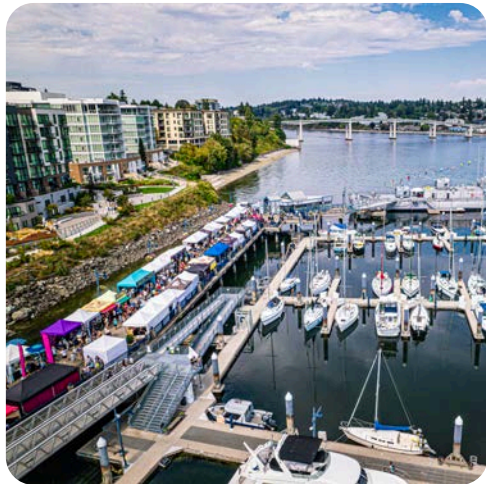
The first major kick-off to our Summer season was marked by the beloved Bremerton Bridge Blast, taking place June 29th off the Manette Bridge. Here, dazzling fireworks brightened everyone's moods on this rainy day. The vendors and activities galore still had a grand time lining Bremerton Marina, and resident USS Turner Joy hosted their annual VIP event aboard the ship. All that being said, we're all still hoping for better weather next year!

Fathoms O' Fun Fireworks

Fathoms O' Fun may have been going through some internal changes, but their yearly fireworks display over the Sinclair Inlet proved to be better than ever! With hundreds of guests in attendance along our Port Orchard Marina, it was clear that everyone in attendance loved the festivities on July 6.



Bremerton Blackberry Festival



As the event marking the end of the Summer season, this year's Bremerton Blackberry Festival was as bitter-sweet as ever! With over a dozen blackberry-themed food & drink items, those in attendance enjoyed live music, children's activities, and beautiful weather. Sunny Jack Events had another outstanding year hosting our community's beloved events, and we at the Port are happy to have her as a partner.

Holiday by the Bay | December 07

Make sure to join us for the final hoorah of 2024 with Holiday by the Bay! Formerly known as the Festival of Chimes & Lights, this event will feature our beloved tree lighting, a parade, vendors, lighted boats, and so much more. Want to participate as a boater? Enjoy free moorage at Port Orchard Marina when you light your boat from December 06-08! More information; email moorage@portofbremerton.org.

Meet the Commissioners



Gary Anderson
President

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

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



Cary Bozeman
Vice President

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

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



Axel Strakeljahn
Secretary

Term: Jan. 1, 2024 -
Dec. 31, 2029

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

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



Jim Rothlin, Chief Executive Officer

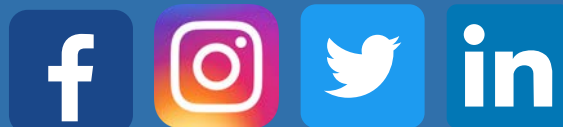
P: (360) 813-0821

E: jimr@portofbremerton.org

Direct contact for all things Port of Bremerton!

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Join & tag us on socials - the best way to stay informed and interact! [@portofbremerton](https://www.instagram.com/portofbremerton)



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