



# Inside news from your Port of Anacortes

A monthly newsletter from your Port of Anacortes

December 2008

## Calendar of Events

Thursday, December 4

7 p.m.

Regular Commission Meeting  
Commission Meeting Room  
1st and Commercial Avenue

Tuesday, December 16

Commission Governance  
Seminar, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Thursday, December 18

7 p.m.

Regular Commission  
Work/Study Session



## Comprehensive Plan charts course for Port's future

For an opportunity to glimpse into the future, see the Port of Anacortes Comprehensive Plan.

This document, recently approved by the Board of Commissioners (see Director's column, page two), represents a blueprint for the future of the Port of Anacortes.

Preparation of the Comprehensive Plan included not only staff and elected commissioners, but district residents who chose to take part in the process.

See [www.portofanacortes.com](http://www.portofanacortes.com) to see the full report.



Representing Anacortes during a Washington Public Ports Association Port of the Year presentation were (l. to r.) Executive Director Bob Hyde, Commissioner Bill Short, Bob Elsner, Commissioner Pat Mooney, Chris Johnson, Julie Johnson Lindsey, Carly Behan and Commissioner Keith Rubin. Photo courtesy of WPPA.

## Top state honors go to Port of Anacortes

The Port of Anacortes was named the Washington Public Ports Association's Port of the Year for 2008.

WPPA President Bill Clark, commissioner for the Port of Pasco, made the announcement during the Association's annual meeting in Tacoma on November 21, 2008.

"The Port of Anacortes has shown remarkable leadership and commitment to the community in its partnership efforts under Focus Fidalgo," said Clark. "Their efforts will result in increased economic development as well as enhanced recreational facilities for the citizens of Anacortes."

Central among accomplishments cited with announcement of the award was the Port's work with the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE) to clean up contamination at Port-owned properties.

In conjunction with Governor Gregoire's Puget Sound Initiative, the Port created the comprehensive framework called "Focus Fidalgo" to coordinate five distinct cleanup efforts on Port property.

The Port continues to pursue an integrated program

to remove toxins from nearshore, upland and marine environments; restore critical aquatic habitat; create new public facilities and shoreline access areas; and generate new family wage jobs.

The first of the cleanup projects was the west basin area at Cap Sante Boat Haven. This \$5.3 million remediation project, completed in July, resulted in the removal of 13,000 tons of contaminated soil from past fuel leaks.

In addition to cleanup, substantial improvements at the Boat Haven have led to new revenue streams in the Anacortes economy. The marina was also honored recently with the Clean Marina Washington award.

The Port of Anacortes also has partnered with tenant Dakota Creek Industries to launch Project Pier 1, a

long-anticipated redevelopment of the historic marine terminal facility and adjacent shipyard property.

Project Pier 1 and associated clean-up will contribute not only to Anacortes' quality of life, but allow Dakota Creek to expand its operations and dramati-

*(Continued on page two)*



**Port Perspectives**

**Board approves 20-year vision for Port**

The Port Commission's approval of the Comprehensive Plan on November 4 sets into motion a 20-year vision for the Port. With future development outlined for the Cap Sante Boat Haven, our Guemes Channel waterfront, and the airport, we now have a touchstone upon which to compare future projects, as well as a direction for the Port's capital improvement program for the next two decades.



**Bob Hyde,**  
Executive Director

I am particularly pleased with the huge amount of public input and ideas incorporated into the plan. More than 100 people gave input at more than 30 meetings, making this document truly profound. Many of the ideas came from the public, not Port staff. In a few cases we "borrowed" best practices from other ports during our field trips.

Some of the features of the Comprehensive Plan include:

- A re-orientation and expansion of the marina to increase moorage by about 20 percent, and re-orientation of the boat slips to a north-

south configuration, making docking easier for our boaters.

- A small boat center at the north end of the marina.
- Expansion of small boating amenities at Seafarers' Memorial Park area.
- A trail along Anacopper Road adjacent to the airport.
- Conversion of the Wyman's marina complex to piers and a marine support building.

Perhaps what is not included in the Comprehensive Plan speaks as loudly of the public input as what is included. What is not included:

- No condos. Our public told us loud and clear to keep the area around the marina for boaters and boat support.
- No big office complexes. No big stores. Our public told us not to try to re-create the downtown at the marina. Let people walk the 500 yards to our great downtown.

This column addresses some of the highlights of the Comprehensive Plan. To see details, see the entire plan on our web site: [www.portofanacortes.com](http://www.portofanacortes.com).

*Bob Hyde*



**Lighted boats on parade**

**Christmas boat parade**

Among holiday events that set this seaside community apart is the annual Christmas Boat Parade, scheduled this year on the evening of Friday, December 19.

Free moorage is offered at Cap Sante Boat Haven December 18-20 for boats participating in the parade. Boaters are encouraged to decorate so the community can view the lights evenings before and after the parade.

Plans call for the December 19 parade of boats to leave the marina about 6 p.m. for a cruise around Cap Sante, up the Guemes Channel and back. Everyone is invited to bring a dish for a potluck at the Seafarers' Memorial Park Building after the parade. Call Greg Mustari, 293-9411 for details.

**Anacortes named Port of the Year**

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ally increase its workforce, bringing jobs and revenue to the community.

"We are pleased to receive this award, which highlights some of our many achievements for 2008," said Anacortes Port Commission President Bill Short. "We appreciate the WPPA Executive Committee's acknowledgment of our accomplishments among a field of strong and well deserving ports."

"I would especially like to acknowledge the quality and spirit of our staff," Short continued. "Their positive, 'can do' attitudes, farsightedness in planning, and knowledge of all aspects of Port operations has been a great asset."

"This is great news," said Don Wick, Executive Director of the Economic Development Association of Skagit County (EDASC). "Our office works with the Port of Anacortes regularly. There are a lot of bright, competent people on staff, and the Port's administrators and board provide excellent leadership."

"The Port of Anacortes is working very hard in the best interest of the community," Wick continued. "I'm sure it's gratifying to win the Port of the Year award, which reflects important peer-to-peer recognition."

The Port of the Year Award, established in 1987, recognizes a WPPA member for distinguished leadership and innovation in economic development efforts. The Association's Executive Committee chooses the winning port from a pool of nominees.

Last year's Port of the Year honors went to the ports of Benton and Ephrata in a joint win.

The Washington Public Ports Association (WPPA) represents the state's 75 port districts, providing a network through which ports share information and address issues on trade, transportation, economic development, and the environment.

**Celebration of Trees**

Island Hospital Foundation will hold its 2nd Annual Celebration of Trees at the Port of Anacortes Warehouse with public viewings December 4-6. See [www.islandhospital.org](http://www.islandhospital.org) for details

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