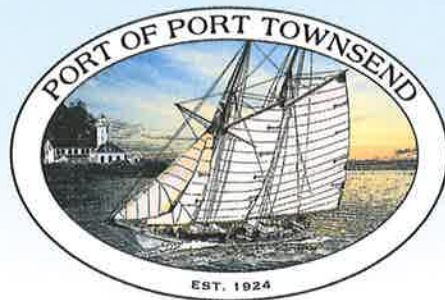


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To The T-Mobile "Hometown Grant" Committee:

I am writing in support of the Port Townsend Main Street Program's application for the "Hometown Grants" place-making opportunity to improve accessibility at the Adams Street Parklet in Port Townsend, WA. Port Townsend (population 10,200) is known as Washington's Victorian Seaport and Arts Community. The mission of the Port of Port Townsend is to serve the citizens of Jefferson County by responsibly maintaining and developing property and facilities to promote sustainable economic growth, to provide community access to Port facilities and services, and to protect and maintain our community resources and maritime heritage.

During the pandemic, our city leaders focused on ways to encourage people to spend time outdoors in our historic seaport. Last year, the Port Townsend Main Street Program worked with the City and local partners to create a new parklet at Adams Street next to the Adams Street pocket park. The parklet capitalized on a waterfront location in the heart of downtown, added pedestrian-friendly seating and improved access to the beach. Place-making projects such as these have been very popular with local residents and visitors.

This "Accessibility for All" place-making project in the center of our downtown waterfront will improve access to this public space and expand its inclusivity with resurfacing to make it ADA accessible, path lighting, a cell phone charging station and enhanced landscaping. The adjacent Adams Street Park will benefit the public with much-needed new benches.

In past years, Port Townsend has had a robust tourism economy fueling many hundreds of jobs, supporting nonprofits, and attracting visitors from around the world--by land and by sea.

Visitor numbers are recovering but there is more work to do. We want to offer visitors experiences that they will remember and encourage repeat visits.

The T-Mobile Hometown grant place-making initiative will bring people, increased business and community pride to Port Townsend. Thank you for this opportunity to make our home town a more prosperous and accessible destination.

Sincerely,


Eron Berg
Executive Director
The Port of Port Townsend