

RESOLUTION NO. 528-09

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION OF THE PORT OF PORT TOWNSEND CLARIFYING THE TIMEFRAME FOR POTENTIAL FUTURE PERMITTING AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE EXPANDED JEFFERSON COUNTY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ESSENTIAL PUBLIC FACILITY

WHEREAS, the mission of the Port of Port Townsend is to create sound economic growth in Jefferson County; and

WHEREAS, the Port of Port Townsend is Jefferson County's only port and its properties and facilities provide an important venue for local businesses and entrepreneurs; and

WHEREAS, the Port provides significant economic benefit to the County, coupled with wise stewardship of lands with important and sensitive ecological features, demonstrating the Port's commitment to pursuing economic development in a manner that preserves and enhances the environment; and

WHEREAS, the Port is committed to effectively collaborating with the County, City and Jefferson County Public Utilities District (PUD) towards a strategy for sustainable and countywide economic development that is consistent with the Growth Management Act (GMA), locally adopted comprehensive plans, as well as available water resources; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the policy direction set forth within the County's GMA Comprehensive Plan, the Port has made application to the County to expand the Jefferson County International Airport (JCIA) Essential Public Facility (EPF) and rezone the land for rural light industrial use; and

WHEREAS, during the rezoning process still pending with Jefferson County, the City of Port Townsend has raised concerns regarding the ability of the Jefferson County PUD to satisfy its existing water commitments while also providing water to the proposed JCIA/EPF expansion and rural light industrial rezone area; and

WHEREAS, because the PUD, as the duly authorized water purveyor, has publicly indicated its ability to provide water to the proposed JCIA/EPF expansion and rezone area within existing and available resources, the Port intends to pursue the proposed rezone without delay; and

WHEREAS, after Jefferson County approval of the proposed JCIA/EPF expansion and light industrial rezone, a considerable period of time will nevertheless be required for the Port to conduct a preliminary site development planning and design process prior to making formal application to the County for binding site plan approval pursuant to RCW 58.17.035 and Article V of Chapter 18.45 JCC; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of promoting intergovernmental collaboration and coordination regarding water resource planning and economic development, and to promote comity between the County, City, PUD and the Port, the Port wishes to voluntarily defer moving forward with permitting and development of the rezone site in order to provide a reasonable timeframe within which the concerned parties may discuss and attempt to resolve their differences regarding water resource availability and allocation in east Jefferson County;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Port Commission of the Port of Port Townsend as follows:

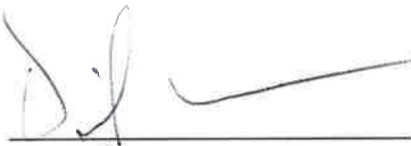
1. The Port of Port Townsend will defer making application to the County for binding site plan (BSP) approval for a period of at least 24 months from the date of rezone approval.
2. During this 24-month period, the Port will proactively seek to discuss and work with the County, City and PUD to achieve a common understanding regarding how best to promote sustainable economic development and wise water resource allocation.

3. Although the Port voluntarily agrees to defer making application for BSP approval during the aforementioned 24-month period, the Port may nonetheless proceed with pre-planning for future site development, and may also proceed with a public process intended to solicit input on the preliminary design for the future rural light industrial development (e.g., potential future layout and configuration of roads, vegetative greenbelts, building pads, and the types of uses most desired by the community – consistent with the use limitations set forth within the Jefferson County Code).

4. At the close of the 24-month period, the Port may move ahead with the Jefferson County BSP permitting process, regardless of whether or not the County, City, PUD and Port have arrived at a definitive and final resolution to all outstanding water supply and allocation issues.

ADOPTED this 23rd day of November 2009 by the Commission of the Port of Port Townsend and duly authenticated in open session by the signatures of the Commissioners voting in favor thereof and the Seal of the Commission duly affixed.


ATTEST:



David H. Thompson, Secretary



Herbert F. Beck, President



John N. Collins, Vice President

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Robert Goodstein, Port Attorney

