

## RESOLUTION NO. 754-21

### A Resolution of the Commission of the Port of Port Townsend

#### **AUTHORIZING PORT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO APPLY FOR A PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE FUND GRANT TO HELP FUND THE SIMS WAY GATEWAY PLAN IMPLEMENTATION & BOAT YARD EXPANSION PROJECT**

This is a resolution that authorizes the Executive Director of the Port of Port Townsend to submit an application for funding assistance to the Jefferson County Public Infrastructure Fund (PIF) Board for the Sims Way Gateway Plan Implementation and Boat Yard Expansion Project, an eligible public facility as set forth in RCW 82.14.370(3)(i).

**WHEREAS**, the Port of Port Townsend, City of Port Townsend, and Jefferson County Public Utility District (PUD) recognize that the Lombardy Poplar trees lining Sims Way are incompatible with overhead power lines and pose safety and grid reliability issues that must be resolved; and

**WHEREAS**, the Port, City and PUD have devised a collaborative, multi-phase project that confers multiple benefits to the community by addressing power-line safety concerns, implementing key guidance from the City's Comprehensive Plan concerning streetscape and nonmotorized improvements in the Gateway Planning Area, and expanding marine trades employment opportunities at Boat Haven; and

**WHEREAS**, under the provisions of the Public Infrastructure Fund program, funding assistance is requested by the Port of Port Townsend to aid in financing its share of the cost of the Sims Way Gateway Plan Implementation and Boat Yard Expansion Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission of the Port of Port Townsend considers it in the public interest to complete the project described in the application;

#### **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:**


1. The Executive Director of the Port of Port Townsend is authorized to make formal application to the Jefferson County Public Infrastructure Fund Board for grant assistance and if awarded, to execute the resulting grant agreement.
2. Any grant assistance received will be used for direct costs associated with implementation of the Port's portion of the project referenced above, including, project design, site planning and analysis, project-specific land use and environmental permitting and mitigation, debt and revenue impact analysis, and site redevelopment and construction of improvements.
3. The Commission of the Port of Port Townsend acknowledges that the grant assistance, if approved, will be paid on a reimbursement basis, meaning that the Port will only request payment from the Jefferson County Administrator after eligible and allowable costs have been incurred and payment remitted to the Port's vendors.
4. The Commission of the Port of Port Townsend acknowledges the criteria to be used by the Public Infrastructure Fund Board in evaluating project applications, and expressly finds as follows:
  - a. The project has a high probability of creating and retaining jobs within the M-II(A) zoning district at Boat Haven, with an estimated 20 jobs likely to be supported by the approximately 0.9-acre expansion of the Work Yard resulting from the project; and
  - b. The project directly supports the local economy by expanding the area and infrastructure needed for the marine trades sector of our local economy to flourish, while at the same time improving and safeguarding

the electrical grid infrastructure serving much of the City as a whole, including the Downtown and Uptown Commercial Districts where many residents are employed; and

- c. The project will assist in retaining and creating jobs that sustain and enhance Port Townsend's "working waterfront," thereby enhancing an economic sector long identified by local policy plans as essential to preserving community character; and
  - d. The project will result in the removal of a significant number of dangerous trees (aged Lombardy Poplars) from areas immediately adjacent to Sims Way, and the undergrounding of electrical utility service, thereby promoting public safety and the resilience of the community's power supply; and
  - e. Implementation of the proposed project is urgent: the Lombardy Poplar trees must be removed immediately to ensure public safety and electrical grid resilience, and integrating tree removal with corollary expansion of the Boat Haven Work Yard and streetscape and non-motorized facility improvements is critically needed to protect and expand the direct and indirect jobs which depend upon it; and
  - f. The Boat Haven Work Yard element of the project is identified in the 2020 Annual Update of the Jefferson County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS Project #24), and is therefore consistent with, and helps to implement, locally adopted project priorities; and
  - g. The proposed project will confer multiple benefits, including: remedying an electrical grid safety and reliability issue, expanding Work Yard space and marine trades sector employment opportunities at Boat Haven, partial implementation of the streetscape and nonmotorized facility improvements envisioned within the City's 1993 Gateway Development Plan (adopted and incorporated by reference with the City's Comprehensive Plan), and re-landscaping and enhancing the visual aesthetic of Port Townsend's iconic entrance.
5. This resolution becomes part of a formal application to the Public Infrastructure Fund Board for grant assistance.
6. The public was provided with an appropriate opportunity to comment on this application.

**ADOPTED this 13th day of October 2021 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:**

  
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William W. Putney III, Secretary

  
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Peter W. Hanke, President

  
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Pam A. Petranek, Vice President

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
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Port Attorney

