

RESOLUTION NO. 792-23

A Resolution of the Commission of the Port of Port Townsend

AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE PORT OF PORT TOWNSEND TO APPLY FOR FEDERAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION DISASTER SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT FUNDING TO SUPPORT ACQUISITION OF A NEW VARIABLE WIDTH 300-TON MOBILE TRAVEL-LIFT TO SUSTAIN BOAT HAVEN HAUL OUT OPERATIONS, RETAIN EXISTING JOBS IN THE MARINE TRADES ECONOMIC SECTOR, CREATE NEW JOB OPPORTUNITIES, AND EXPRESSING ITS COMMITMENT TO PROVIDING LOCAL GRANT MATCHING FUNDS.

WHEREAS, the Port of Port Townsend is a municipal corporation established in 1924 under Title 53 of the Revised Code of Washington; and

WHEREAS, under RCW 53, the Port of Port Townsend is responsible for developing and maintaining infrastructure that fosters economic development, providing transportation facilities and capital equipment that support commerce and communities within Jefferson County; and

WHEREAS, the Port of Port Townsend is also responsible for coordinating the mitigation of, preparations for, response to, and recovery from, natural disasters that affect Port infrastructure, and to establish resilient infrastructure and acquire and maintain capital equipment that will help to sustain the communities of Jefferson County in the future; and

WHEREAS, from November 13 to 15, 2021, portions of Western Washington experienced heavy rains, flooding and mudslides which resulted in a Presidential Disaster Declaration for six counties, including Jefferson County (DR-4635-WA); and

WHEREAS, from December 26, 2021, through January 15, 2022, the Puget Sound region of Western Washington experienced a series of severe winter storms with heavy snow, high straight-line winds and waves, and flooding which resulted in a Presidential Disaster Declaration for fifteen counties, including Jefferson County (DR-4650-WA); and

WHEREAS, the winter storms cited above damaged public and private property throughout Jefferson County and the region, and caused economic harm to the community; and

WHEREAS, the winter storms cited above also revealed the vulnerability of Port equipment and operations at the Port's Boat Haven facility, underscoring the need to acquire new and resilient equipment to safeguard the Port's 300-ton mobile travel-lift operations, the hundreds of marine trades jobs dependent upon it, and to sustain and improve the economic life of the community by supporting growth in marine trade employment opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce (EDA) administers the Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) Disaster Recovery Program which makes 80% matching grant funds available to help communities devise and implement long-term economic development recovery strategies in areas where a Presidential Declaration of a major disaster has been issued; and

WHEREAS, the Port of Port Townsend qualifies to apply for EAA Disaster Recovery Program grant assistance (funding opportunity number EDA-DISASTER-2023) in that:

- Jefferson County, Washington was included in major disaster Presidential declarations under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency

Assistance Act as a result of storms in calendar years 2021 and 2022 (DR-4635-WA and DR-4650-WA, respectively); and

- Acquisition of new capital equipment in the form of a variable width 300-ton mobile travel-lift aligns with Investment Priorities identified by the EDA in that:
 - It facilitates economic recovery and resilience and strengthens the ability of the community to withstand future natural disasters and economic shocks; and
 - It encourages and supports job creation, business expansion, facilitates other technology and capital upgrades, and productivity growth in manufacturing at Boat Haven; and
 - Will help to attract private investment and retain and grow jobs within a designated Opportunity Zone; and
- The proposed acquisition of a variable width 300-ton mobile travel-lift is consistent with, and helps to implement the North Olympic Development Council's 2021-2025 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) in that it will sustain and expand the strength of the marine trades economic sector, leading to a more diverse and resilient economy; and
- The acquisition of this capital equipment is also reflected in the Port of Port Townsend's 2023-2027 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) as equipment necessary to support the health and resilience of the Port's Boat Haven operations and Jefferson County's marine trades economic sector; and

WHEREAS, the total cost for acquisition, delivery and on-site set up of a new variable width 300-ton mobile travel lift is estimated to be \$2,932,292; and

WHEREAS, the acquisition of this equipment is eligible for EDA funding support as described hereinabove, with EDA responsible for an eighty percent (80%) share (\$2,345,833), and the Port responsible for a twenty percent (20%) share (\$586,458), respectively; and

WHEREAS, as of April 30, 2023, the Port had reserved and unreserved cash balances in excess of the amounts necessary to meet its grant match share, and therefore, has the funds available to proceed with this capital acquisition if successful in obtaining EDA funding support;

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

1. **Application for Disaster Recovery Program Grant Assistance Confirmed:** The Commission for the Port of Port Townsend, Jefferson County, Washington, supports preparation and submission of an EDA EAA Disaster Recovery Program grant application for \$2,345,833 to assist in funding the acquisition of a variable width 300-ton mobile travel-lift to support the Port's Boat Haven haul out operations.
2. **Executive Director Authorized to Execute All Necessary Documents & Agreements:** The Port Commission authorizes its Executive Director, Eron Berg, or his designee, to sign and submit all necessary documents to both apply for, and enter into, a project agreement with the EDA, if the requested funding is awarded.
3. **Port of Port Townsend Match Commitment:** Upon consultation with the Port's Director of Finance and Administration, the Commission of the Port of Port Townsend has concluded, and hereby assures EDA, that local matching funds of up to \$586,458 are available and have been authorized for the above-referenced capital equipment acquisition.

4. **Adequacy of Process Confirmed:** The Port of Port Townsend certifies that appropriate public notice and opportunity for comment on this application has been provided, and further, that this application authorization was properly and lawfully adopted following the requirements of the Port of Port Townsend and all applicable laws.

ADOPTED this 14th day of June 2023, 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:



Pamela A. Petranek, President




Carol L. Hasse, Vice President



Peter W. Hanke, Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Port Attorney

