

Working Waterfront



C O A L I T I O N

Portland Planning and Sustainability Commission
Comprehensive Plan Update
1900 SW 4th Avenue, Suite 7100
Portland, OR 97201

March 12, 2015

Subject: PSC Comprehensive Plan Testimony (TSP)

Dear Planning Commissioners:

In addition to previous submitted testimony, the Working Waterfront Coalition (WWC) is submitting this letter regarding Portland's Transportation System Plan (TSP) as part of the Comprehensive Plan update. The WWC's previously submitted testimony on January 21, 2015 asked that the Planning and Sustainability Commission's recommended draft of the proposed Comprehensive Plan recognize the importance of harbor businesses to the economy and middle-income job growth; reduce regulatory burden and provide predictability for development and redevelopment; provide an adequate supply of developable harbor industrial land with acceptable site characteristics; and ensure that policy language is balanced to accomplish the above.

In addition, the WWC would like to take the opportunity to reinforce the message regarding the importance of Portland's freight transportation system to Portland's industrial areas, and how critical it is to the success of Portland waterfront properties.

Portland's freight transportation system supports the growth, expansion and productivity of industrial businesses. Without a strong freight system, growth and expansion are compromised and harbor business productivity is impacted. The transportation freight system allows for the efficient movement of goods and services, and access for employees to and from their living wage jobs.

The WWC requests that considerable weight be given to TSP projects that improve freight mobility and access to industrial lands and employment. Further, we encourage the use of city transportation funds to ensure those priority projects are implemented. We appreciate the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



Jack Isselmann, President

Established in 2005, the Working Waterfront Coalition, with its extensive knowledge of harbor industry needs and active industry participation, is dedicated to working with its partners to ensure an appropriate balance between environmental concerns and the needs of river-related, river-dependent employers. Portland's Harbor is a vital employment area: home to thousands of valuable high-wage, high-benefit jobs. In addition, WWC members are conscientious stewards of the environment, making significant investments in the harbor consistent with state and federal laws and regulations to reduce the impacts of human activity on the harbor's ecological resources.