Leveraging our Trade Strengths

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Port of Portland: Established 1891

Mission: To enhance the region’s economy and quality of life by providing efficient cargo and air passenger access to global markets.
The Transportation Advantage
Roads, Rivers, Rail and Runways
The Portland/Vancouver Region’s Potential for Economic Recovery and Growth

1. Region’s wages are not keeping pace
2. Our region is trade dependent and traded sector jobs will define our future
3. Regional transportation investment for business market access remains critical to the success of our traded sector
4. Land for international market access and on which to grow traded sector jobs is needed
Per capita income

Figure 13: Per capita income in Portland relative to top U.S. metro average

- Portland
- U.S. metro average
Leveraging our Trade Strengths

- Portland/Vancouver exports 1/5th of its economic output, ranking second in the US. (Brookings Institution, July 2012)

- Portland/Vancouver ranked 2nd in growth in value of exports from 2003 to 2008 (Brookings Institution, July 2012)

- Portland/Vancouver is 23rd in population but is the 12th largest exporting region by value in the US (Brookings Institution, July 2012)

- Oregon is the 9th most trade dependent state in the nation

- Oregon’s businesses export more than $19.3 billion in goods annually
Challenges Facing the Region
Transportation Infrastructure

- River Navigation Channels/Jetties
- Rail Improvements
- Runways
- Roads
Challenges Facing the Region
Pressure from Urban Activities
Challenges Facing the Region
Interface of Harbor with Habitat
Challenges Facing the Region: Superfund
Challenges Facing the Region Harbor Land for Expansion

- Right Location
- Reasonably priced
- Access Efficient
- Development Ready

West Hayden Island
Tools and Strategies

• Increase awareness of working harbor
  – “Portland Harbor Behind the Scenes”
  – Harbor Tours

• Ensure local zoning supports working harbor uses
  – Retain industrial sanctuary concept
  – Support mitigation banks as a way to focus mitigation

• Prioritize transportation investments and protect existing freight corridors

• Annex West Hayden Island into the City of Portland for future marine terminal development
“Portland has a history of intentional action to promote and protect its waterfront economy and industrial base.”

— Carl Abbott

Professor of Urban Studies, Portland State University