

## Port of Bremerton Quarterly Newsletter

### Winter 2022

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## 2021 Job Creator of the Year

### From the CEO

*by Jim Rothlin*

As we continue to push through these historic times, the Port of Bremerton, like many of us, has had its obstacles and opportunities. Working from home, zoom meetings, virtual conferences, and social distancing have become a norm in business over the last two years. Rising construction costs, delays in product availability, and the rising real estate market has hindered some companies from starting or expanding in the Port. But despite the obstacles, opportunities have materialized for some businesses that found unexpected success from demand in products or services created as a byproduct of the last two years.

Last year, the Port of Bremerton was awarded "Job Creator of the Year" by the Washington Public Ports Association for providing approximately 2,600 family-wage jobs in the community. With shovel-ready property, partnerships with the private sector, and the hard work of staff, we unified as a team and found ways to help local businesses accomplish their growth goals. In the coming year, projects will include three more business expansions, including continued design development of "Skypark," a new 20-acre industrial park with airport runway access, new entryway signs, and other improvements based upon the Port's 20-year master plan approved by the Port Commission in 2020.

Bremerton National Airport completed many projects to help create more hangar space for pilots as all hangars are currently full with a waitlist. A pad ready site was recently completed for three corporate hangars, and work is being done to prep for additional hangar expansion to allow for more general aviation hangar facilities. Runway signage and taxiway and runway LED lighting were also improved, making them more energy-efficient with improved intensity levels. And one of the most anticipated events at the airport will happen this summer; the multipurpose facility that will include a commercial hangar, office space, pilot lounge, and new restaurant--which pilots and the local community enjoy--will open.

The Port has continued to successfully market its Port Orchard and Bremerton Marinas. These state-of-the-art marina facilities attract boaters from all over the country, and permanent moorage is at 100% capacity. There are two major projects currently in progress at the marinas. The Bremerton Marina is in a public/private partnership for an exciting waterfront development project that includes apartments, retail, and commercial space along with a 385-space parking garage, of which 75 spaces will be reserved for marina tenants. Plans for a breakwater replacement have also begun at the Port Orchard Marina. The breakwater benefits the public and community by protecting the marina and its 471 boat slips, providing places to walk, gather, recreate, and a space for visiting boaters to come in and spend time at the Port Orchard waterfront. This marina brings in more than \$10 million in revenue to Port Orchard every year, making replacing the breakwater a vital investment. Additionally, automated pay stations will be installed at both marinas for convenient paying options for visiting boaters.

The Port's culture is driven by creativity, accountability, and teamwork from all employees. Port staff are very proactive in finding new ways to serve our tenants and community better.

Jim Rothlin  
CEO  
Port of Bremerton

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## Port of Bremerton hires new CFO

The Port of Bremerton has hired Jeremiah Wiley as its new Chief Financial Officer. Wiley brings with him 20 years of experience in accounting and finance and will use his communication, problem-solving, and technical abilities to drive the Port...

[Read more](#)

[www.portofbremerton.org](http://www.portofbremerton.org)

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## Airport updates

Construction for the new multipurpose facility at the airport is progressing. The new building will consist of a restaurant, pilot lounge, hangar, and office space, and we anticipate it opening this summer. This week, the slab was poured, and the building's exterior should be up soon. Keep an eye out for announcements when it's completed!

Finally, you can find Bremerton National Airport at the [Northwest Aviation Conference](#) on February 26 and 27 in Puyallup. Be sure to stop by and say "hi" if you're attending! We'll have candy and other fun giveaway items, plus you can enter for a chance to win a gift card to the airport's new restaurant.

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## Marina updates

*Photo from Sound West Group by Kitsap Sky View*

Bremerton's Marina Square project recently resumed construction. The buildings will be a mix of housing, retail, and parking. When finished, the Bremerton Marina will have 75 parking spots for marina tenants within the parking garage. This project is expected to be completed later this year.

The Port Orchard Marina's breakwater is also being replaced within two to three years. [Read more about the breakwater grant award here.](#)

Finally, we are looking forward to the return of community events in Port Orchard and Bremerton. While details are currently up in the air, you can check out our events page on our website later this spring for more information.

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## Did you know?

You can watch recordings of our Commission Meetings online.

1. Go to <https://www.portofbremerton.org/commission-meetings>
2. Scroll down and find the list of recordings
3. Select the date you're interested in
4. Get informed on what happens with your local Port!

We are also streaming the Commission Meetings online for the time being, so you can find the links to the upcoming meetings on the same page by clicking on the upcoming meeting you're interested in.

## We're hiring!

Work with fantastic people and get great benefits by working for the Port. We have a Port Attendant position open at our airport. Know someone who might be interested? Send them the link!

[See open positions](#)

## Port news you may have missed

[Port of Bremerton's non-freight activities studied in GAO report to Congress](#)

[Port of Bremerton Commissioner Strakeljahn now Board President](#)

[Port of Bremerton wins Job Creator of the Year award](#)

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