



PORT TALK

—PORT OF LONGVIEW NEWSLETTER—



Doug has been with the Port for over three decades.

Q&A DOUG AVERETT

With Commission Board President

BACKGROUND: Before being elected to the Board of Commissioners in 2017, Doug had served nearly 30 years working for the Port of Longview. Doug was first hired as an Engineering Technician, then became a Terminal Superintendent and finally Director of Terminal Operations. Doug's long history with the Port has given him valuable insights on the ways the organization benefits our community.

Q: If the Port continues to be profitable, and is having consecutive record-breaking revenue years, why is it necessary to collect taxes?

A: "Revenue is often confused with profit. The port industry uses revenue as a way to gauge business success overall, but it certainly doesn't equate to profit. Once the Port's expenses are paid, only a fraction of that money remains. And, what is remaining, goes right back into rail lines, equipment and maintaining existing infrastructure."

PORT TAXES AT A GLANCE

	Cents/ \$1,000	Total Collected
Port of Seattle	\$0.16	\$72 M
Port of Tacoma	\$0.18	\$18.6 M
Port of Vancouver	\$0.22	\$9.9 M
Port of Olympia	\$0.19	\$6.2 M
Port of Everett	\$0.29	\$4.7 M
Port of Grays Harbor	\$0.42	\$2.5 M
Port of Longview	\$0.26	\$2.1 M

> Based on 2018 budgets



Port Maintenance crews lay concrete as part of stormwater/wastewater containment upgrades at Berth 7.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT IN PORT = ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

Why do I pay Port taxes? It's a great question, and one we're asked frequently. Combined with operating profits and grants, your tax dollars are directly invested in the infrastructure that creates economic prosperity within our community.

As a publicly-owned entity, you own more than 830 acres of land, docks, buildings and equipment requiring maintenance and expansion to meet business and cargo handling demands. Managing these assets is a monumental task, which pays dividends in the form of jobs, revenue to local business and taxes generated for public services.

For example, the Port is in the middle of a \$3 million-dollar, multi-year project to expand the dock containment area at berths 6 and 7. By doubling the area in which the Port can contain and treat water runoff from cargo operations, we can more efficiently

and cost effectively meet growing environmental requirements and customer needs. Speed and savings are important to prospective customers who are choosing among multiple ports to ship their cargo through.

Over the last several years the Port's Board of Commissioners has significantly reduced tax collection – by nearly 50%. While the Port does collect just over \$2 million in taxes, that investment generates \$5.2 million back for schools, roads and public services, 1 in 10 local jobs and \$444 million for local businesses.

Your investment in infrastructure, like increasing containment, means your Port can handle a wider variety of cargoes. It means attracting more economic benefits that strengthens our local economy and our community. 📈



The Berth 4 Revitalization Project is entering a new phase.

PORT MAXIMIZES FACILITIES FOR ECONOMIC BENEFITS

In keeping with the Port's Strategic Plan, this year's budget priorities are carefully considered to ensure the best return on our investments and your tax dollars, all for the continued economic benefit of our communities. Below are just a few:

- **INDUSTRIAL RAIL CORRIDOR (IRC) EXPANSION:** The Port is moving forward with the IRC expansion project which will allow larger volumes of cargo to move freely to and from our facility without interruptions to the community.
- **BERTH 4 REVITALIZATION:** The Port is embarking on next steps toward revamping Berth 4 by completing a vehicle and rail transportation analysis this year. The results of the analysis will help determine next steps in the development of the berth, as well as the IRC expansion project. 📈

HOW YOUR TAX DOLLARS ARE INVESTED AT THE PORT OF LONGVIEW



TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Upgrades to our existing rail infrastructure are critical to making the Port an attractive option for our customers.



EQUIPMENT

The purchase of equipment, such as excavators, fleet vehicles, sweepers and lift trucks all help keep Port operations running smoothly.



FACILITIES

Maintaining and upgrading our existing facilities (like the Berth 6/7 containment upgrade project) is key to the Port staying competitive.

COMMISSION MEETINGS

Regular meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month at 10:00 am and are open to the public. Meeting times are subject to change.

For more information, visit portoflongview.com