

# Port keeps grant spigot running at airport

## Local match for federal money

By EDWARD STRATTON  
The Daily Astorian

The Port of Astoria Commission voted Tuesday to have their cash-strapped agency spend up to \$230,000 to stay in the pipeline for several million dollars in Federal Aviation Administration grants.

The Port, facing a lack of money to fix its infrastructure and a log export market drying up because of proposed tariffs, had faced some consternation over whether to pay the large local match for the federal program that funds most of the maintenance at the World War II-era Astoria Regional Airport.

The airport is set to lose more than \$30,000 a year from operations, but brings in the vast majority of the Port's grant revenue, largely because of its use by the Coast Guard and military units. The Port has received more than \$12 million in federal grants at the airport so far.



The Daily Astorian

The Astoria Regional Airport has attracted more than \$12 million in grants from the Federal Aviation Administration

The \$230,000 match will allow the Port to receive \$4.1 million in the 2019-20 fiscal year. The match also makes the Port eligible for another \$3.7 million supplemental grant with no local match required.

Port Commissioner Bill Hunsinger, the lone abstention in the vote on the local match,

has argued that the Port should not be spending money on an airport that loses money.

John Raichl, a former Port commissioner and member of the Airport Advisory Committee, said that while the airport does struggle to break even for the Port, it generates a lot for the community. The airport

hosts the Coast Guard's Air Station Astoria, the Life Flight Network medical evacuation service, electric airplane tug manufacturer Lektro, UPS and the Columbia River Bar Pilots.

"In short, the airport supports a wider array of people, businesses and industries than any asset the Port owns," War-

renton Mayor Henry Balensifer, an employee at Lektro and a member of the advisory committee, wrote for a recommendation in favor of the local match. "Including the U.S. Coast Guard, it enables over 425 permanent, full-time family-wage jobs actively working on the airport alone."

The Port Commission also passed a motion Tuesday to form a task force that will look at how to make the airport at least break even.

Airport Manager Gary Kobes said that while the airport is set to lose between \$35,000 and \$37,000 from operations, new hangars being built for Life Flight and former Nirvana bassist Krist Novoselic's company KAST Hangars will add about \$10,000 to \$12,000 in revenue. A rent credit given to the bar pilots for improving their space will also expire in April, adding another \$2,700 a month in revenue, he said.

If the Port could lease an upland parcel in its industrial park just outside the airport fence, that would go pretty far toward making the facility break even, Kobes said. The Port has struggled to find tenants for the so-far empty industrial park, which is largely in the tsunami inundation zone. The agency has looked at turning much of the site into wetlands surrounding an environmental research station for rent to local research groups.

# Port: Agency is waiting on a report from state

Continued from Page 1A

Alan Brann, owner of Kiwi's Water Taxi, which ferries people to and from ships in the Columbia River out of the Port's mooring basins, said he spends between \$35,000 and \$40,000 per year on fuel, moorage and power. But since being told to relocate after the causeway's closure, Brann said he stopped buying fuel from the Port, instead going to Wilcox & Flegel Oil Co. downtown.

"My opinion of the Port of Astoria right now is pretty much zip," he said.

J.D. Moreland, who has three commercial fishing boats at the East Mooring Basin, said he has been there since 2003 and has no other place to go.

"We're just disgusted with how that has went down there, slowly downhill," he said. "Our rates have gone up. The service has gotten worse."

Many boat owners have thrown cold water on the Port's argument that the causeway is too dangerous to even

walk on. They called on the Port to at least allow them a liability waiver to reach their boats.

Knight cast doubt on whether a lawyer would approve liability waivers, but said the Port is dedicated to getting the causeway open as soon as possible. The problems at the causeway and in other areas of the Port's crumbling infrastructure are decades in the making, and the cash-strapped agency needs help from the public in arguing for more assistance, he added.

Commissioner Bill Hunsinger, a withering critic of Knight, blamed him for not taking responsibility for the Port's issues over his four-year tenure or providing a plan to fix the causeway.

He called on the Port to have professionals plot a path between the weakest portions of the causeway for boat owners to use. He offered to donate \$3,000 to help with repair efforts, later saying he'd need to be paid back.

The Port is still waiting on a report from the state

Department of Transportation on what needs to be fixed to reopen the causeway, Knight said. The agency has sought help from local marine contractor Bergerson Construction, which performs much of the local dock work, to look at the structure.

Greg Morrill, co-owner of Bergerson, said the company has looked at the state's previous report and disagreed with some of the dire warnings.

Frank Spence, the president of the Port Commission, said the agency should hold an emergency meeting once the state recommendations come back so the agency can take immediate action. Port Commissioner Robert Stevens even warned to the idea of allowing boat owners a liability waiver to access the causeway.

Floyd Holcom, owner of the Pier 39 waterfront complex just east of the marina, and architect Nik Serandé recently approached the Port about leasing and operating the East Mooring Basin under Fishermens Wharf — Astoria. They want to develop more

slips, install floating homes, add retail spaces and potentially create a new cruise ship terminal along a breakwater owned by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The Port is hoping the partnership will provide the millions of dollars in private capital to overhaul the causeway and enliven the marina.

Holcom, who has been providing skiffs for tenants at the East Mooring Basin to reach their boats, said he was shocked to learn of the causeway's closure and hopes to work with the Port to solve the issue.

"Ours is about 650 feet long," he said. "It goes out to Pier 39, and we have maintenance guys on it all the time, as well as a beer truck that's about 40,000 pounds."

About half the audience left the meeting after discussion of the East Mooring Basin ended. On his way out, Dave Densmore, who has been using a skiff to reach his live-aboard boat, offered Port commissioners a ride out if they want to look underneath the causeway.

# Store: 'A burden well beyond what Grocery Outlet can handle'

Continued from Page 1A

Michael Ard, an engineer representing Main & Main Capital, argued that the turn lane "was not essential."

The multimillion-dollar cost to extend the turn lane is "a burden well beyond what Grocery Outlet can handle."

Ard said the city could approve the project "even absent that turn lane, and that's what we're requesting tonight."

Commissioner Bill Carpenter gave developers another option, proposing a right-turn in, right-turn out configuration with a barrier to allow traffic to flow through the intersection.

That proposal would also require state approval. Planning Director Kevin Cupples said. "I don't know what ODOT would say to that but they'd have to approve anything done in the roadway," he said.

Chris Hoth, the commission chairman, and Commissioners Carpenter, Teri Carpenter, Lou Neubecker and David Posalski unanimously approved the request, with the conditions of a turn lane or right turns only out of Avenue N.

"If they don't like the conditions of the proposal, they can appeal it, or come back to us," Posalski said before the vote.

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# TV SCHEDULE

## Evening listings

WEDNESDAY

WEDNESDAY EVENING												DECEMBER 5	
A	L	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
2	KATU	(2) KATU News at 6 (N)		Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel Fortune (N)	The Goldbergs (N)	Am.Housewife (N)	Modern Family (N)	Single Parents (N)	Million Little Thing "Perspective" (N)		News (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel
3	KOMO	(4) KOMO 4 News (N)		Wheel Fortune (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	The Goldbergs (N)	Am.Housewife (N)	Modern Family (N)	Single Parents (N)	Million Little Thing "Perspective" (N)		KOMO 4 News (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel
5	KING	(5) NBC News (N)	KING 5 News (N)	KING 5 News (N)	Evening	Chicago Med "Death Do Us Part" (N)	Chicago Fire "Always a Catch" (N)	Chicago P.D. "Descent" (N)				KING 5 News (N)	(:35) Tonight Show
6	KOIN	(6) KOIN Local 6 (N)	Evening News (N)	Extra	Ent. Tonight (N)	Survivor "So Smart They're Dumb" (N)	SEAL Team "Santa Muerte" (N)	Criminal Minds "Broken Wing" (N)				News (N)	(:35) Colbert
7	KIRO	(7) KIRO 7 News (N)	Evening News (N)	KIRO 7 News (N)	Ent. Tonight (N)	Survivor "So Smart They're Dumb" (N)	SEAL Team "Santa Muerte" (N)	Criminal Minds "Broken Wing" (N)				KIRO 7 News (N)	(:35) Colbert
8	KGW	(8) KGW News at 6:00 p.m. (N)		Tonight Cassidy	Inside Edition	Chicago Med "Death Do Us Part" (N)	Chicago Fire "Always a Catch" (N)	Chicago P.D. "Descent" (N)				News (N)	(:35) Tonight Show
9	KRCW	(9) Modern Family	Modern Family	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	Riverdale (N)	All American "California Love" (N)					News (N)	(:35) Tonight Show
10	KOPB	(10) Journeys in Japan	Business (N)	PBS NewsHour (N)		Viewer's Choice						Two and a Half	Two and a Half
12	KPTV	(12) 6 O'Clock News (N)		Family Feud	Family Feud	Empire "Had It From My Father" (N)	Star "Zion" (N)			10 O'Clock News (N)		News (N)	Page Six TV
13	KPDX	(13) Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Prime News (N)	Prime News (N)			Big Bang Theory	Family Guy	American Dad!	The Game
13	KCPQ	(13) Modern Family	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Empire "Had It From My Father" (N)	Star "Zion" (N)			Q13 NEWS AT 10 (N)		News (N)	The Simpsons
20	TBS	(20) Family Guy	Family Guy	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Full Frontal (N)	Full Frontal	The Cable Guy
29	KZJO	(29) Black-ish	Black-ish	Mom	Modern Family	Mom	Modern Family	Q13 News at 9 (N)		Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Two and a Half	Two and a Half
30	ESPN	(30) NBA Basketball Philadelphia vs Toronto (L)		NBA Basketball San Antonio Spurs at Los Angeles Lakers Site: Staples Center -- Los Angeles, Calif. (L)						(:55) After Buzzer / (:10) SportsCenter (N)		SportsCenter (N)	
30	ESPN2	(30) NCAA Basketball UNC - Wilmington at North Carolina (Chapel Hill) (L)		NCAA Basketball Washington at Gonzaga (L)						NFL Live		NBA Basketball Philadelphia vs Toronto	
31	NICK	(31) The Loud House	The Loud House	The Loud House	The Loud House	Double Dare	Double Dare	To Be Announced				Friends	(:35) Friends
32	DISN	(32) Stuck in Middle	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Raven's Home	Raven's Home	Coop & Cami	Stuck in Middle	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Raven's Home	Raven's Home
34	FAM	(34) Movie	(:50) ★★ The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause (2007, Family)	Martin Short, Abigail Breslin, Tim Allen.		(:55) ★★ Christmas With the Kranks ('04) Jamie Lee Curtis, Tim Allen.						The 700 Club	
35	FMC	(35) Movie	(:40) The Purge: Election Year (2016, Action) Elizabeth Mitchell, Mykelti Williamson, Frank Grillo.			(:55) ★★ The Purge: Anarchy ('14) Kiele Sanchez, Frank Grillo.] (:50) FXM Presents						The Perfect Guy ('15) Sanaa Lathan.	
36	LIFE	(36) A Very Nutty Christmas ('18) Barry Watson, Melissa Joan Hart.		Christmas Harmony ('18, Romance) Chandra Wilson, Adam Mayfield, Kelley Jakle.		(:05) My Christmas Prince ('17) Calum Alexander, Parker Stevenson, Alexis Knapp.						Hot Rod	Chronicling the life of the great Rod Hundley.
39	ROOT	(39) Ship Shape TV	DFL Soccer Schalke at Hoffenheim			Supergirl Pro		In Depth				Hot Rod	Chronicling the life of the great Rod Hundley.
39	FS1	(39) NCAA Basketball Temple vs. Villanova (L)		NFL Turning Point		Speak for Yourself		TMZ Sports (N)	UFC Flashback	UFC Unleashed "Holloway vs. Lamas"		NCAA Basketball Ohio U. vs Xavier	
43	SPIKE	(43) ★★ The Mummy (1999, Adventure) Rachel Weisz, John Hannah, Brendan Fraser.						★★ The Mummy Returns (2001, Adventure) Rachel Weisz, John Hannah, Brendan Fraser.				The Daily Show	The Office
44	COM	(44) (1:15) South Park	(:50) South Park	(:25) South Park		South Park	South Park			South Park (N)	BoJack (N)	The Daily Show	The Office
45	HIST	(45) Forged in Fire "Viking Sword"		Forged in Fire "Sica Sword"		Vikings "The Revelation"		Vikings "Murder Most Foul" (N)		Forged in Fire "The Pipe Tomahawks" (N)		Forged in Fire "Viking Battle Axe"	(:05) PD Cam
46	A&E	(46) (5:00) Live PD				Live PD Live access inside the country's busiest police forces.						(:05) PD Cam	(:35) PD Cam
47	TLC	(47) Say Yes Dress	Say Yes Dress	My 600-lb Life "Bettie Jo's Story"		My 600-lb Life "Cynthia's Story" Cynthia is a 610-lb single mother raising five kids.		By the Ton "You Have to Fight for It"				My 600-lb Life "Chad's Story"	
48	DISC	(48) Gold Rush "Hazard Pay"		Gold Rush: Dirt "Stormageddon" (N)		Gold Rush "Megamorphosis"		Border Live "December 5, 2018" (N)				Body Cam "Officer Down"	
49	NGEO	(49) To Catch "Cocaine Couples" (N)		State Troop. "Deep Woods Standoff"		Alaska State Trooper "Chopper Down"		State Troop. "Females of the Force" (N)		Alaska State Trooper "Carnival Chaos"		Alaska State Trooper "Chopper Down"	
50	TNT	(50) (5:30) ★★ Shooter (2007, Action) Michael Peña, Danny Glover, Mark Wahlberg.		★★★ Elf (2003, Comedy) James Caan, Bob Newhart, Will Ferrell.		Captain America: Civil War (2016, Action) Robert Downey Jr., Scarlett Johansson, Chris Evans.						Immortals (2011, Action) Henry Cavill.	
51	AMC	(51) ★★ The Polar Express ('04) Voices of Leslie Zemeckis, Eddie Deezen, Tom Hanks.						★★★ Mr. Popper's Penguins ('11) Carla Gugino, Angela Lansbury, Jim Carrey.				Real Country "Inspiration and Faith" (N)	Chrisley Knows
52	USA	(52) (10) ★★ Iron Man (2008, Action) Gwyneth Paltrow, Jeff Bridges, Robert Downey Jr.						Real Country "Inspiration and Faith" (N)				Chrisley Knows	Chrisley Knows
53	FOOD	(53) Guy's Game "Music and Meatloaf"		Guy's Grocery Games "Funny Food"		Guy's Game "DDD Holiday Showdown"		Chrisley Knows (N)	Chrisley Knows (N)	Guy's Game "Holiday Madness"		Guy's Game "Seasonings Greetings"	
54	HGTV	(54) Property "Expecting the Unexpected"		Property Brothers "Shaky Start"		Property Brothers		Property Bros. "Living in Harmony" (N)		House Hunters (N)	House Hunters (N)	Property "Striking the Right Chord"	
55	FX	(55) (5:30) ★★ Jason Bourne (2016, Action) Julia Stiles, Alicia Vikander, Matt Damon.				★★ Inferno (2016, Mystery) Felicity Jones, Irfan Khan, Tom Hanks.						★★ Inferno (2016, Mystery) Felicity Jones, Tom Hanks.	
57	CNN	(57) Cuomo Prime Time		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon		Anderson Cooper 360		Cuomo Prime Time		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	
58	FNC	(58) Hannity		The Ingraham Angle		Fox News @ Night		Tucker Carlson Tonight		Hannity		The Ingraham Angle	
61	CNBC	(61) Deal or No Deal "Casey Heath" (N)		Deal or No Deal "Joe Verriotto"		Deal or No Deal "Casey Heath" (N)		Deal or No Deal "Joe Verriotto"		Deal or No Deal "Casey Heath" (N)		Paid Program	Paid Program
63	BRAV	(63) Housewives NJ "Easter Egg Wives Hunt"		Wives NJ "The Jersey Breakfast Club"		Wives NJ "Housewives and Heifers"		Housewives NJ "Turkish Delights" (N)		Wives Dallas "Reunion Part One" (N)		Watch What (N)	Housewives NJ
64	TCM	(64) (5:00) Marriage Italian Style		Human Voice	(:45) TCM Classic Film Festival "Sophia Loren"			★★★ Two Women (1961, War) Robert Loggia, Andrea Occhipinti, Sophia Loren.				Lady L (1965, Comedy) Paul Newman.	
65	SYFY	(65) Movie		★★★ Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (2009, Adventure) Michael Gambon, Bonnie Wright, Daniel Radcliffe.						Nightflyers (N)	(:50) ★★ Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince		
162	RFD	(162) Dude Ranch (N)	Cowboy (N)	W. Rodeo (N)	Equestrian Nation	Total Team Roping	Rural Eve. News	WesternSport	Cash Cowboys	Dude Ranch	Cowboy Moments	Product Showcase	

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