

CITY OF FIFE / PORT OF TACOMA  
THE FABULICH CENTER, ROOM 104  
3600 PORT OF TACOMA ROAD, TACOMA, WASHINGTON

**COMMISSION/STAFF PRESENT**

Don Meyer, President  
Clare Petrich, Vice President  
Don Johnson, Secretary  
John McCarthy, 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Secretary  
Dick Marzano, 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Secretary  
John Wolfe, Chief Executive Officer  
Carolyn Lake, Port Counsel  
Rod Koon, Sr. Mgr. Communications  
Nick Demerice, Director Public Affairs  
Judi Doremus, Executive Assistant  
Juliet Campbell, Clerk of the Port

**COUNCIL/STAFF PRESENT**

Mayor Kim Roscoe  
Bryan Yambe, Deputy Mayor – *excused*  
Tim Curtis, Councilmember  
Doug Fagundes, Councilmember – *excused*  
Pat Hulcey, Councilmember  
Lisa McClellan, Councilmember - *excused*  
Lew Wolfrom, Councilmember  
Hyun Kim, City Manager  
Russ Blount, P.E., Director Public Works

**6:00 PM: JOINT STUDY SESSION**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Commissioner Meyer called the Joint Study Session to order at approximately 6:04 p.m. and a flag salute was performed.

**AGENDA:**

1. Welcome:

Commissioner Meyer: Thanked Mayor Roscoe and Commissioner Petrich for suggesting this meeting and noted that the last joint meeting with the City of Fife was in 2016.

Mayor Roscoe: Also thanked Commissioner Petrich for suggesting the meeting. She added that the Puyallup Tribe's event is an opportunity to showcase the region and the Puyallup Reservation and that the entities should support each other's efforts when able. She also appreciated the opportunity to discuss other agenda items that impact the region, the Port's centennial and transportation issues.

2. Panel Introductions:

Introductions were made by Port of Tacoma Commissioners and staff, and the City of Fife's Councilmembers and staff. Welcoming statements were given to guest presenting from the Puyallup Tribe who also introduced themselves to the panel.

3. Puyallup Tribe of Indians: Canoe Journey Briefing

*Presented by: Connie McCloud, Cultural Director, Puyallup Tribe; Clinton McCloud, Puyallup Tribal Cultural Department; Andrea Bob, Canoe Journey Event Assistant; and Chester Earl, Community Event Planner, Puyallup Tribe and Chairman of the Canoe Committee*

Ms. McCloud shared the cultural and spiritual significance of this event for the Puyallup Tribe and its history. The Tribe first hosted the Power Paddle to Puyallup in 1998 and there were 20 canoes that participated. This year's event will be the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their first hosting and already 86 canoes have signed up.

Ms. Bob provided an overview of Canoe Journey - a Native American traditional canoe gathering that takes place along the west coasts of Washington and Canada. She described landing practices that take place at each stop and some of the traditions associated. Some tribes as part of Canoe Journey will host Protocol where each visiting tribe will share its songs and dances. Traditionally tribes that travel the farthest go first. The second to the last spot is held for the tribe hosting the journey the following year. The last spot is reserved for the hosting tribe. Canoes land July 28<sup>th</sup>, and Protocol begins July 29<sup>th</sup> and will continue through August 4<sup>th</sup>. The public can find news about the event and information regarding canoe registration, vender and volunteer opportunities at [www.paddletopuyallup.org](http://www.paddletopuyallup.org).

Mr. McCloud provided a schedule of events and logistics of the event. He also identified some of the areas where volunteers are needed including cooks, security, shuttle drivers, law enforcement, maintenance and general labor. Mr. Earl noted that they are expecting 10 to 20 thousand people to travel to the area for this event. He asked the councilmembers and commissioners to spread the word to the local businesses that the Tribe is offering sponsorship opportunities. There will be 30' tall bleachers, shoreline banners and fencing banners for advertising.

Mr. McCloud and Mr. Earl noted that this event will be an economic boon for the area. They advised the City of Fife to make sure its stores and restaurants are well stocked as in prior journeys, local restaurants and stores ran out of inventory and some had to close early.

Mayor Roscoe stated the City of Fife is on board to assist. She also offered to spread the information that the Tribe is looking for support and offered to connect the Tribe with the Fife Milton Edgewood Chamber of Commerce and Travel Tacoma + Pierce County.

Commissioner Meyer directed CEO Wolfe to have staff reach out to Ms. Bob regarding opportunities for the Port of Tacoma to assist.

Mr. Earl noted that the Puyallup Tribe wants to showcase how well the Tribe works with local jurisdictions. He said that though the jurisdictions have differences, on most things they work together.

Some personal stories were shared.

#### 4. Port of Tacoma: Centennial Celebration

*Presented by: Rod Koon, Sr. Mgr. Communications; Nick Demerice, Director Public Affairs*

The Port of Tacoma was created by vote of Pierce County citizens on November 5, 1918 and will be celebrating its centennial this year. The Port will celebrate 100 years of the Port in 100 days beginning at Maritime Fest on July 28, 2018. Mr. Koon presented the goals of the centennial celebration. These include sharing past achievements and future opportunities, increasing the community's understanding of the Port and strengthening ties with the community. The Port's role in job creation and economic vitality throughout the region will also be highlighted. Mr. Koon went over some of the major events planned, including the annual Port boat tours which are free to the public. This year's annual boat tours will take place July 29<sup>th</sup>. This timing coincides the Puyallup Tribe's canoe journey. The canoes will be landing the day before, but events will be taking place and the canoes may be visible on the beach. The tours also provide a close look at the ships and cranes and provide an appreciation of the working waterfront.

Mr. Demerice described ways the centennial celebration will be integrated into its existing community outreach efforts. The Port offers monthly bus tours to the public which offer an opportunity to see how terminals work up close. The Port will be working on videos and publishing stories from individuals on their engagement with the Port. The Port welcomes stories from the Puyallup Tribe and the City of Fife. The Port is in negotiations with the City of Tacoma regarding options for a possible art installation as a legacy project that gives the Port lasting visibility and connections with future generations in the community.

#### 5. City of Fife: Road Infrastructure Projects Update

*Presented by Russ Blount, P.E., Director Public Works City of Fife*

Mr. Blount provided an update to the Port of Tacoma Commission and City of Fife on road improvement projects. He noted there are several projects that have been in the works for a few years that are going into construction all at once. There is an interactive map of construction projects on the City of Fife's website.

The Port of Tacoma Road Interchange Project is the largest project. It is under contract with start date for Phase 1 in June 2018. This summer contractors will be placing fills. The fills must then sit for several months before construction on the road can begin. In the end there will be a new entrance to Fife from the freeway heading north through 34<sup>th</sup>. It will be a long straight stretch that will improve throughput.

Mr. Blount also provided updates on the 54<sup>th</sup> Avenue Culvert Replacement Project anticipated to start July 2018. Traffic disruptions include a complete street closure at 54<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> from July 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 a.m. to Monday July 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 a.m. The contractor offered at his own cost to pay Tacoma Public Power to remove overhead power so he can move in large equipment to complete the work in one weekend rather than having three weeks of lane closures.


Other projects discussed included the SR 99/54<sup>th</sup> Avenue Improvements, the Pacific Highway Preservation Project, the 66<sup>th</sup> Avenue East Extension. Regional projects SR167, Sound Transit 3, and Fife City Center were also discussed.

6. Closing Comments:

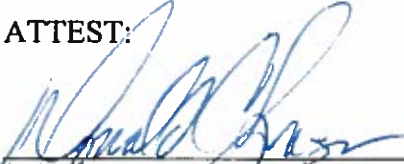
Brief closing comments were made by Mayor Roscoe and Commissioners Meyer and McCarthy thanking staff from both the City of Fife and the Port of Tacoma. Mayor Roscoe appreciated the opportunity to communicate to the Puyallup Tribe that both the City of Fife and the Port of Tacoma are here for their support. Commissioner Meyer underscored the importance of working together. Commissioner Marzano suggested meeting annually.

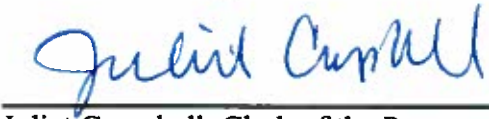
**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, President Meyer adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

  
Donald G. Meyer, President  
Port of Tacoma Commission

ATTEST:

  
Donald C. Johnson, Secretary  
Port of Tacoma Commission

  
Juliet Campbell, Clerk of the Port  
Port of Tacoma



## 2018 & Beyond: Road Improvement Projects

It's no secret that traffic in Fife is challenging. So, what are we doing to make it better? Read on to find out.

Remember- the inconvenience of construction is temporary, but the improvements will be permanent.

### SR 99/54<sup>th</sup> Avenue Improvements

Construction Start Date: May 2018

Anticipated End Date: Late Summer/Fall 2019

Project Overview:

- Double left turn lanes will be added on SR 99 at the 54<sup>th</sup> Avenue Interchange.
- New pedestrian and roadway lighting, pedestrian and bicyclist facilities, street trees, curbs and gutters.
- Enhanced stormwater treatment (less flooding).

Recent Updates:

- Construction contract was awarded to Johansen Construction, Inc. for \$6 million.

What to Expect:

- Lane closures and traffic delays should be expected.

### Port of Tacoma Interchange Improvement Phase 1

Construction Start Date: June 2018

Anticipated End Date: 2021

Project Overview:

- Phase 1 of this project will modify the existing I-5 Southbound Off and On Ramps.
- The new I-5 Southbound off-ramp will connect into a new 34th Street Extension to alleviate traffic congestion at Port of Tacoma Road.
- A new configuration of the I-5/POTR ramps will improve I-5 mainline operation.
- Traffic queue lengths will be reduced from thousands of feet to only hundreds.

Recent Updates:

- Construction contract for Phase 1 was awarded to Goodfellow Brothers, Inc. for \$25 million.
- Construction will begin in June.
- Final design for Phase 2 of this project will begin this summer.

What to Expect:

- Varying lane, ramp and road closures should be expected. All closures will be noticed on our website and social media by Friday the week prior.

Find out more:

- [CityofFife.org/POTR](http://CityofFife.org/POTR)

### 54<sup>th</sup> Avenue Culvert Replacement

Construction Start Date: July 2018

Anticipated End Date: July 2018

Project Overview:

- A new, larger concrete culvert (imagine a large pipe that allows Wapato Creek and wildlife to flow under

the road) will replace the existing culvert under 54<sup>th</sup> & 8th.

- A replaced traffic signal arm.
- A larger culvert will create more suitable habitat for Wapato Creek and reduce flooding.

Recent Updates:

- Construction contract was awarded to Active Construction, Inc.
- The precast concrete culvert is being manufactured and expected to arrive May 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Construction will begin in July.

What to Expect:

- Traffic disruptions should be expected late July with three weeks of lane closures. 54<sup>th</sup> will be completely closed from Saturday, July 7 at 6:30 a.m. to Monday, July 9 at 6 a.m..

### Pacific Highway Preservation Project

Construction Start Date: July 2018

Anticipated End Date: Fall 2018

Project Overview:

- Provide one uniform road surface and correct areas of poor subgrade by overlaying the road from POTR to Milwaukee Ave
- Curb ramps will be assessed for ADA compliance and reconstructed as needed.
- Storm frame grates will be assessed for wear and replaced as needed.

Recent Updates:

- Bid package is being prepared.

What to Expect:

- Varying lane closures should be expected on Pacific Highway west.

### 66<sup>th</sup> Avenue East Extension

Construction Start Date: April

Anticipated End Date: July

Project Overview:

- A new street is being built between 20<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> streets which allow drivers to reach Edgewood without using the busy intersection at 20<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup>.
- New sidewalks, illumination and signalization
- Storm drainage collection, conveyance, detention and treatment will be added.

Recent Updates:

- Construction contract was awarded to Active Construction, Inc. & construction has begun.

What to Expect:

- Road construction noise should be expected, but not traffic disruptions should occur.

### Other Projects Impacting Fife

- Puyallup River Bridge (City of Tacoma)
  - Complete bridge closure: 5/21 – Feb. 2019
- Tacoma HOV Lane Construction (WSDOT)
  - Adds HOV lanes to Gig Harbor
- SR 167 Extension (WSDOT)
  - Construction on Phase I- 2019
- Tacoma Dome Link Extension Project
  - Adding light rail to Tacoma

