PORT OF LONGVIEW SUPPORTS NEARLY 20,000 JOBS IN THE REGION

If you live in Cowlitz County, there’s a great chance that you or someone you know has a job that can be tied to the Port of Longview. Using data from a recent economic impact study, the Port discovered 19,203 jobs were related to cargo and vessel activity on the docks last year. The findings of the report highlight the Port’s promise of improving the livelihood of working families in our community.

The author of the study, Pennsylvania-based Martin & Associates, arrived at this number by adding the number of jobs directly created by Port activities to those that exist to support those same workers. Finally, they factored in the indirect jobs created by local purchases of those employees who depend on Port activities, as well as the related jobs generated by regional and national firms who use the Port’s marine terminals.

With so many jobs supported by the Port you might think that most occur on the waterfront, but that’s only a small part of the story. The fact is, jobs across multiple industries are supported by Port activities. Everyone from railroad and trucking companies, grain handlers, government agencies and local vendors—like industrial suppliers, tire companies and even grocery stores—are on the receiving end of the benefits provided by a financially healthy Port.

The results of the economic impact study reveal your Port is one of the area’s leading employment generators, putting thousands of people to work each day and enriching our community. So, while you may not directly work for the Port as a member of the ILWU or as a terminal operator, it’s more than likely your job is linked to the success of your Port of Longview!

Last year, 19,203 jobs were in some way related to maritime activity at the Port’s marine terminals. Below is a brief description of the kinds of jobs the Port generates:

• **DIRECT JOBS** are those dependent on vessel and cargo activity and include trucking companies, longshore workers and freight forwarders.

• **INDUCED JOBS** are created by people directly employed by companies involved with cargo activity, who then re-spend their wages in the community on food and other consumer goods.

• **INDIRECT JOBS** include employees from supporting industries and suppliers, maintenance and repair firms, equipment suppliers and office supply firms.

• **RELATED JOBS** are jobs created by regional and national firms that ship and receive cargo via the Port’s marine terminals.

Q&A WITH CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER NORM KREHBIEL

**BACKGROUND:** Norm joined the Port in 1993 as the Director of Facilities and Engineering. In 2008 he was appointed Deputy Executive Director and later, Chief Operating Officer. On September 1, 2016, he was unanimously appointed by the Board of Commissioners as Chief Executive Officer.

Q: Why did the Port conduct an economic impact study and what are the benefits of such a report?

A: "The economic impact study shows the critical role the Port plays as a major source of employment for working families in our area. The report confirmed this by showing we created 57% more jobs than in the six years since the last economic impact study was completed in 2012. The study also illustrates the many ways cargo activity at the Port creates a positive economic ripple throughout our community."

Q: What are some of the other reasons economic impact studies are vital to the Port?

A: "Studies like these are important because they demonstrate that continued growth and investment in the Port will result in additional employment opportunities and economic vitality for the region. The report can also guide leadership on the distribution of Port resources, inform lawmakers on funding requests and help create overall public awareness."

BREAKING DOWN THE JOBS SUPPORTED BY THE PORT

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TYPES OF JOBS GENERATED BY CARGO ACTIVITY AT THE PORT IN 2018

- **RAILROADS**
  - Freight railroad networks, like BNSF and Union Pacific, regularly call on the Port.

- **LONGSHORE**
  - Jobs with ILWU have employed local workers for generations on the Port’s docks.

- **TERMINALS**
  - Marine Terminal operators are responsible for overseeing all cargo operations.

- **TRUCKING**
  - Trucking firms from all over the region are at the Port around the clock.

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