

PORT OF KINGSTON NEWS

Now in its 100th year serving the people of Kingston 1919-2019

AUGUST 2018



The Port of Kingston's new Park on Washington Blvd. offers a stunning view of Puget Sound.

Terry Asla Port Photo

'You're Invited': Park opens Aug. 15

The grand opening of the new Port Park on Washington Blvd. is scheduled for 5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 15. Following the ribbon cutting and remarks by officials, the Port will host an old-fashioned ice cream social. Across the street, Aviator Coffee & Teas will be offering free donuts to all who attend.

The new park is located just above the car ferry parking lot. It was once the site of the old Kingston Inn.

"We're hoping lots of local folks come out to thank the people and organizations that made all this possible."

— Jim Pivarnik

"The property was purchased for \$400,000 by an anonymous donor and then, with the aid of the Kitsap Community Foundation, given to the Port on the condition it be made into a park," said Port Executive Director Jim Pivarnik. "We used that to get a matching grant from the State of Washington Recreation Conservation Organization. Since then, we've worked closely with county officials to be sure what we're doing fits into their long-range plans as well.

"Many of the people who

helped us make this happen will be at the August 15 opening. We're hoping lots of local folks come out to thank the people and organizations that made all this possible," he said.

The new park, with its copper-colored roof and blue heron weathervane, is already a local landmark.

"We've already started getting inquiries wanting to know if the gazebo will be available for rent," said Administrative Assistant Lacey Gray. "It seems like it's going to be real popular."

The gazebo with its copper heron weathervane already is a popular landmark. Terry Asla Port Photo



Port invites public comment on moorage rate study

Port Commissioners have retained Paul Sorenson of BST Associates, Bothell WA, to conduct a comparison study of the Port's moorage rates to similarly-sized public ports on the Sound.

Sorenson is on the Aug. 22 Port Commission meeting agenda to discuss how the study will be conducted. The meeting begins at 1 p.m. at Village Green.

"BST Associates does this for every port in the state," said Port Executive Director Jim Pivarnik. "Paul's the recognized expert."

The study is expected to take two to three months and will include

evening as well as daytime public meetings. If the Commissioners adopt his recommendations, they would primarily effect permanent moorage rates beginning in 2019. The increases would probably be phased in over several years, Pivarnik said.

Why raise rates?

"The Port of Kingston is a business owned by the public, the 3,300 tax payers in the Port District," Pivarnik said. "The main business of the Port is the leasing

of port-owned property. We lease slips in the marina to boaters, dock space to both the car and fast ferries, and we rent parking spaces.

MOORAGE RATE PRESENTATION AT PORT MEETING 1 P.M., AUG. 22 VILLAGE GREEN

"The public has a right to expect each one of these leases to pay its fair share. Especially in the case of the marina where 50 percent of the permanent moorage is occupied by people who don't live in the Port District.

In the case of the public moorage, that not only includes

what it costs to maintain the property today, but also the need to build a reserve to cover future expenses.

"Because, in the next 15 years, the marina docks are going to have to be replaced, including re-doing the infrastructure—water, utilities, wastewater. Between now and then, the Port has to save enough money for the down payment and bonding," Pivarnik said.

How high will rates go?

"We are looking at establishing a fair market rate," Pivarnik said. "But, I don't ever see us becoming another Edmonds or Shilshole."

Fast ferry update in photos



◀ Passenger loading barge

Left: Workers remove one of the barge's piling rings with the aid of a crane. The pilings and rings secured the barge in place.
Terryll Asla Port Photo

The 90-by-50-foot passenger-loading barge was towed to the Foss Maritime dry dock on Lake Union on July 16.

The move followed four days of preparation as workers removed electrical lines and cut away the piling rings securing it to four pilings.

The barge is scheduled to return in late September.

“When Foss [Maritime] is finished, this will be an almost-new barge, good for at least another 15 years if it's properly maintained,” said Pivarnik. “A new barge would have cost around \$2.1 million and taken at least six months to build.”



“It was a tight fit,” said one Port staff member. Straightening the barge and pushing it clear of the pilings ultimately required the coordinated efforts of the tug, crane boat, and a Port boat.
Terryll Asla Port Photo



The barge in dry dock on Lake Union.
Jim Pivarnik Port Photo



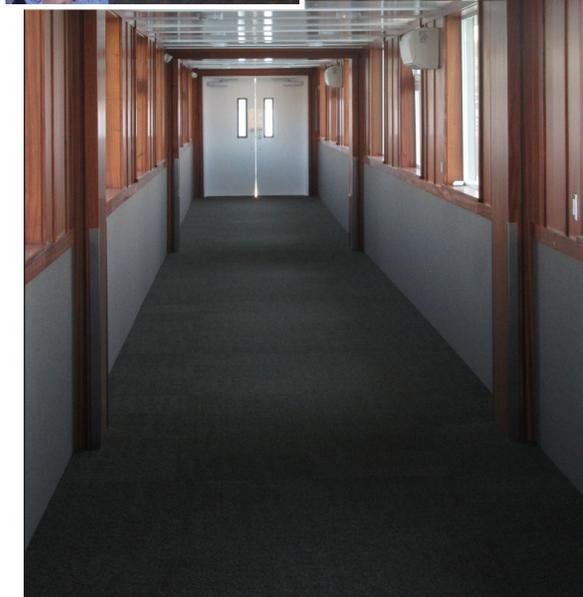
◀ Passenger terminal

“Passengers who went through the so-called ‘gerbil tube’ back when the old ferry was in business won’t recognize the place today,” said Port Executive Director Jim Pivarnik.

“The exterior has been re-sided, re-roofed, re-windowed, and insulated. But, it’s inside where it really shines. With the new mahogany paneling, carpeting, and nautical-style ceiling and lights, it kind of reminds you of the alon of a classic 1920s wooden yacht—if the yacht had had heating, air-conditioning and LED lighting.”

The resemblance to an old Chris-Craft wasn’t an accident, said contractor, Rick Lanning of Homeland Construction.

“I have friends who had those wonderful old boats and I wanted to capture that ambiance, that feeling,” Lanning said.



Inset: Rick Lanning stands in the half-finished terminal. Below: the finished terminal with mahogany paneling, carpeting, and nautical-style ceiling and lights.
Terryll Asla Port Photo



▲ Fast ferry

The new ferry, ‘MV Finest,’ in dry dock having hull plates replaced.

Kitsap Transit Photo

Plans call for the ‘MV Finest’ to be out of dry dock and to have completed crew training and sea trials around the end of October.

No final date has been set to begin passenger-carrying operations, according to Kitsap Transit authorities.

The name of the 350-passenger vessel comes from its role during 9-1-1 when it helped evacuate people after all of the bridges to Manhattan were closed.

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