

Port of Kingston
Kitsap County, WA

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-12-18-06

A Resolution of the Commission of the Port of Kingston

POLICY TO NON-ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS FOR MEMORIALS

WHEREAS, the Commission has recently held discussions about whether to pay for and/or accept donations for a memorial or other signage (“Memorial”) to be placed on Port property in order to recognize the contributions of a certain individual either to the Port or the Kingston community; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has been advised by legal counsel for the Port that paying for such Memorials would be an inappropriate expenditure of public funds and would likely constitute a gift of public funds; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has researched how certain other agencies handle such requests for Memorials and has found that those agencies that allow Memorials ordinarily have a policy in place for donations to be accepted for the cost of the Memorial and for the agency to have control over placement, maintenance, replacement, and removal; and

WHEREAS, the Commission recognizes that if it were to accept donations for Memorials, best practices mandate that the Port adopt a policy so that it has a consistent approach to such requests and so that all members of the community would have an equal opportunity to have the Port consider a Memorial request; and

WHEREAS, the Commission recognizes the inherent potential for controversy over selection of individuals for such recognition; and

WHEREAS, the Port recognizes that any request for a Memorial would require background vetting in order for the Port to ensure that controversy over an individual would be minimized; and

WHEREAS, the Commission believes that the risk of controversy, negative media coverage, division within the community arising from decisions made regarding selection of individuals to be recognized, the cost to the Port, and the burden on staff are all factors that militate against adopting such a program; and

WHEREAS, the Commission sees little, if any, advantage to the Port or its constituents in adopting such a program; and

WHEREAS, the Commission finds that the discussion concerning Memorials has, to date, consumed a significant amount of valuable staff and Commission time; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners for the Port of Kingston as follows:

1. The Port intends to comply with the law and, as such, will not use public funds to pay for Memorials to recognize certain individuals.

Port of Kingston
Kitsap County, WA

2. The Port will not accept donations from members of the public to install a Memorial on Port property to recognize certain individuals.
3. The Commission declines to adopt a policy or program to accept donations from members of the public to install a Memorial on Port property to recognize individuals.

Passed by the Board of Commissioners for the Port of Kingston, Kitsap County, Washington at a Regular Meeting held this 18th day of December 2024.

PORT OF KINGSTON
KITSAP COUNTY, WASHINGTON

DocuSigned by:
Laura Gronnvoll
8A3CAECBBF8E414...

Laura Gronnvoll, Commissioner

DocuSigned by:
Greg Englin
012B2052DBC849D...
Attest: _____
Greg Englin, Executive Director

Signed by:
Steve Heacock
9790F1E429B44CD...

Steve Heacock, Commissioner

DocuSigned by:
Mary McClure
9B57DBE864C54C6...

Mary McClure, Commissioner