

The Compass

News from the Port of Columbia County



**NEXT RENEWABLE
FUELS UPDATE**



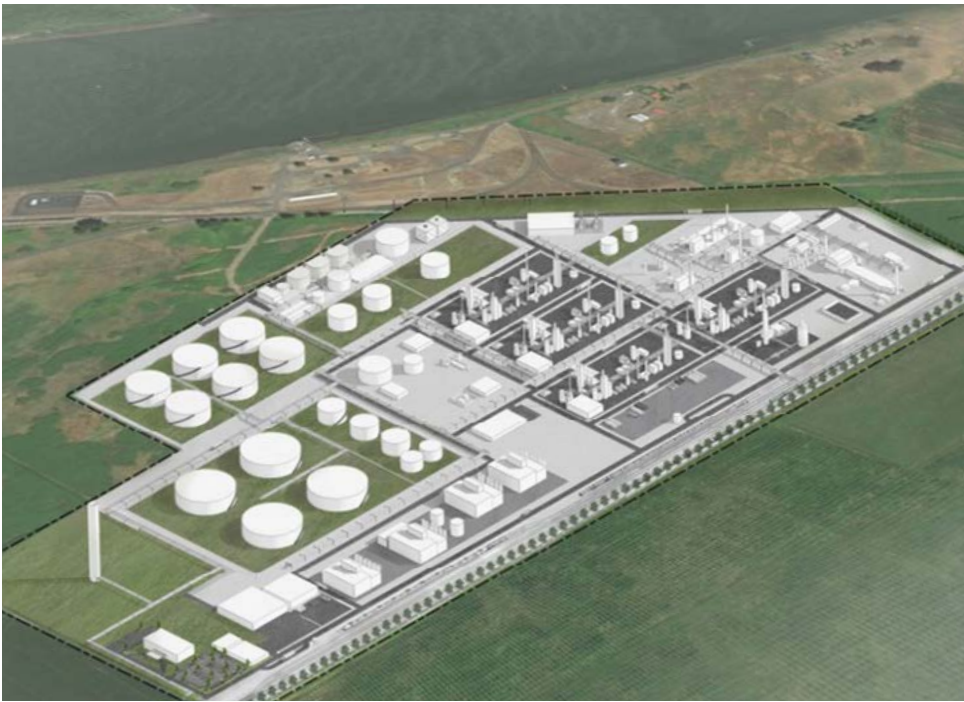
**SUMMER SECURITY
AT TRESTLE BEACH**



**SORBER ELECTED TO
PORT COMMISSION**



**MAINTENANCE TEAM
KEEPS PORT RUNNING**



Artist's rendering of the NEXT Renewable Fuels plant at Port Westward

NEXT RENEWABLE FUELS LEAPS FORWARD IN 2023

Following a series of major updates in early 2023, NEXT Renewable Fuels (NEXT) is accelerating its pursuit as a leader in the renewable diesel and sustainable aviation fuel industry, with its clean fuels facility at Port Westward as just the starting point.

NEXT has received its key local and state permits to develop its facility at Port Westward and is advancing through the federal permitting process. The company also signed a business combination agreement with Industrial Tech Acquisitions II, Inc. (Nasdaq: ITAQ) to become the first public, large-scale clean fuels and feedstock aggregator.

Adding to this momentum, United Airlines Ventures is investing up to \$37.5M in NEXT as part of its \$100M sustainable aviation fund. This investment has helped NEXT gain recognition as one of the 50 Hottest Companies in the Bioeconomy in 2023. Chris Efird, CEO of NEXT, spoke at the annual Advanced Biofuels Leadership Conference in

Washington, D.C., underscoring the company's leadership role in the industry.

Further strengthening its corporate foundation, NEXT recently welcomed Lisa A. Holmes, MSHR, and Stephen Trauber, former Citibank Vice President, to its Board of Directors. Their expertise will guide NEXT's growth, workforce expansion, and capabilities in the energy transition sector.

The team at NEXT is beyond grateful to receive ongoing and extensive local support, including from local leadership, union leaders, a recent endorsement by The Daily News Editorial Board, and a jointly signed letter by the Oregon Coastal Caucus, a group of seven Oregon Senate and House elected officials representing the Oregon coast.

For more information about NEXT Renewable Fuels, visit www.nextrenewables.com.

SECURITY AT TRESTLE BEACH THIS SUMMER

MetroWatch, a licensed security provider, will provide onsite security at Trestle Beach again this summer Memorial Day through Labor Day. Since beginning the security program in 2021, the Port has seen a significant decline in the number of safety incidents at the beach.

"We know Trestle Beach is one of the few places in St. Helens and Columbia County where citizens have beach access to the river," said Sean Clark, Port Executive Director. "The Port is willing to take on the extra expense to ensure it remains a safe place for the public to enjoy."

Trestle Beach is an industrial property that the Port has opened as a recreational river access point for the public to enjoy the beach. Summer hours at Trestle Beach are 8:00 am to 7:00 pm. Parking is available through the Columbia City Industrial Park access gate. The gate is locked at closing time. To learn more visit www.portofcolumbiacounty.org/recreation/page/trestle-beach or scan the QR code.



Trestle Beach in Columbia City



Port Commissioner Nick Sorber

NICK SORBER ELECTED, NANCY WARD AND CHIP BUBL RE-ELECTED TO PORT COMMISSION

The May 2023 election resulted in victories for Nick Sorber, Nancy Ward, and Chip Bubl. Ward and Bubl were re-elected to their seats on the Port Commission, while Sorber was elected to fill the seat vacated by outgoing Port Commissioner Chris Iverson, who did not seek re-election. This will be Sorber's first term, while Ward and Bubl will each be starting their second. Congratulations to

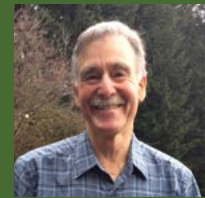
Commissioners Sorber, Ward, and Bubl.

We would also like to extend our appreciation to all the candidates who ran for office and to the citizens of Columbia County who have shown an interest in the Port and our community by working together to achieve strong leadership.

YOUR PORT COMMISSION



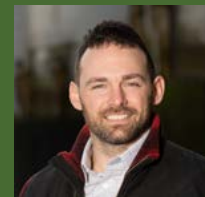
ROBERT KEYSER



CHIP BUBL



NANCY WARD



BRIAN FAWCETT



NICK SORBER

IN MEMORY OF FORMER PORT COMMISSIONER ERIC DAHLGREN



Eric Dahlgren

The Port was sorry to hear of the passing of Eric Dahlgren on Nov. 8, 2022. Eric attended St. Helens Junior and Senior High, where he graduated in 1972. As a senior in high school, he ran for Port Commissioner and won, making him at the time the youngest elected official in the State of Oregon. He served as a Port Commissioner for 28 years and operated Dahlgren's Builders Supply. The Port is grateful to Eric for his years of service.

ATTEND A MEETING

Regular Commission meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 8:30 am and the 4th Wednesday as needed (time TBD) at the Port office: 100 E Street, Columbia City. Meetings are subject to change. Visit www.portofcolumbiacounty.org/calendar to access the updated meeting calendar.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



GUY GLENN, JR.

Executive Finance Manager

Guy recently joined the Port in May 2023 as the new Executive Finance Manager. Guy is taking over for Bob Gadotti, who will retire at the end of July after serving in the position since December 2016.

The Executive Finance Manager plays a critical role at the Port, managing all aspects of municipal finance, budget, audit, and compliance with federal and state laws and statutes. Guy joins the port from Ecological Land Services, where he was the General Manager. He previously spent ten years at the Port of Ilwaco, Washington, first as Finance Director and then nine years as Port Manager.

"I'm encouraged to join the team at the Port of Columbia County and support the Port's mission to lead and innovate on local economic opportunities."



From L-R, Kim Culver, Harold "Billy" Brown, Clint Lukich, Marshall Simmons, & Adam Milner

MAINTENANCE TEAM KEEPS PORT RUNNING SMOOTH

The Port is fortunate to have an extremely qualified maintenance team on staff that consistently goes above and beyond to keep the Port operational and up to code. Between them, they have in-house expertise in plumbing, electrical, roofing, fire suppression systems, carpentry, welding, and metal work.

The Port has 42 commercial and industrial tenants, and over 100 individual tenants each at the Scappoose Airport and Scappoose Bay Marine Park. The maintenance team is quick to respond to tenants' needs and are

available on call at all hours, including nights and weekends. For example, they are the first to respond when there is a snowstorm, shoveling snow off the docks and boat house rooftops to keep the marina from collapsing.

"Our maintenance team always puts the Port's best interest first in serving our tenants and recreational users," said Miriam House, Port Operations Manager. "They are a well-oiled machine, willing to do whatever it takes to get the job done."

SHOVEL-READY INDUSTRIAL LAND FOR LEASE IN ST. HELENS!

The Port has 37-acres of heavy industrial property on McNulty Way in St. Helens available for lease. Adjacent to U.S. Hwy 30, this site is certified "shovel-ready" by the State of Oregon. See the property listing at www.loopnet.com/Listing/McNulty-Way-Saint-Helens-OR/4374501 or scan the QR code.



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