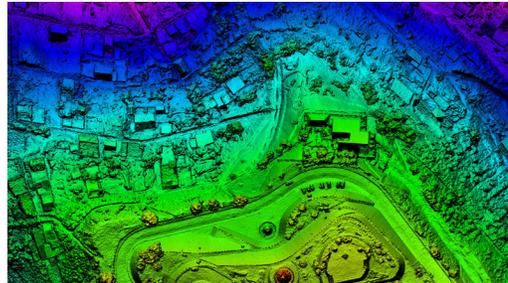


GIS SOLUTIONS FOR PUBLIC PORTS: AN AFFORDABLE ALTERNATIVE

A Geographic Information System (GIS) is a powerful and highly customizable tool that can help collect, manage, and analyze data efficiently. With GIS in place, ports can more efficiently track assets, property information, and environmental compliance data; locate use restrictions on port property; and improve overall operations. Now, ports can get affordable access to GIS consulting services through the nonprofit Association of Washington Cities (AWC) GIS Consortium.

Whether your port needs a little or a lot of GIS assistance, any Washington port can join and get the help they need to meet their unique needs and goals. "Part of AWC's goal with the GIS Consortium is to help cities and other organizations that provide important services to citizens and industry get affordable access to technology like GIS," said Andy Meyer, AWC special programs coordinator and director of the AWC GIS Consortium. "When cities and entities like Ports run smarter with technology that makes them more efficient and effective, we all benefit," he said.



The Port of Bellingham joined the GIS Consortium in January 2019. A GIS needs assessment, a service that comes with GIS Consortium membership, has been completed, providing port staff with an objective roadmap for optimizing GIS, including specific guidance regarding tasks that would achieve the port's short- and long-term program goals. The following are some of the Port of Bellingham's goals for the needs assessment:

- Evaluate personnel resources and responsibilities;
- Evaluate the use of relevant software technologies (e.g., AutoCAD);
- Evaluate hardware, server, and network resources, including mobile devices;
- Identify methods for transferring institutional knowledge from staff members nearing retirement
- Identify mechanisms to allow for better access to both port-maintained and county-maintained GIS datasets.

To learn more about the AWC GIS Consortium, visit wacities.org, or e-mail Andy Meyer at andym@awcnet.org.

SPOTLIGHT

BUILD GRANTS: \$900 M AVAILABLE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

Stemming from the program funded and implemented by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, BUILD Grants (Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development), \$900 million is set to be awarded in 2019 for surface transportation infrastructure projects that will have a significant local or regional impact.

Grants can be used to support road, bridge, transit, rail, port or intermodal projects.

Up to 50 percent of BUILD funding will be allocated to rural area projects that align with selection criteria, including projects that improve infrastructure condition, address public health and safety, promote regional connectivity, facilitate economic growth or competitiveness, deploy broadband as part of an eligible transportation project, or promote energy independence.

Selection criteria encompass safety, economic competitiveness, quality of life, state of good repair, innovation and partnerships with a broad range of stakeholders, according to the public notice.

The grant application deadline is July 15, 2019 by 8:00PM, and can be applied for at Grants.gov. The maximum award will be \$25 million, and no more than \$90 million can be awarded to a single state for this round of grants.

USDOT is also hosting a [series of webinars for technical assistance during the BUILD grant application process](#).

(THE FINAL) FASTBALLS, CURVEBALLS AND CHANGE-UPS



In July of 1961, two things happened at the same time that I find interesting. Three, if you count the Berlin Wall going up – but this column isn't about walls. It's about this Association, with a percentage of sappiness thrown in.

In July of 1961 the WPPA was born, and so was I. When I discovered this, it confirmed some deep Zen thing in my mind about how I came to work here for so long.

Which brings me to the news that this is my final column in The Manifest. I am leaving employment with the WPPA this month, to take a job leading the second-largest port district in the state. (My scrupulous habit of not playing favorites with our members prohibits me from saying which one!)

I think that's likely a curve ball.

We completely re-vamped this newsletter a few years ago, to make it shorter and bi-monthly. I had resisted writing a monthly column for years, because I didn't think people would really be interested in my opinions. Turns out I was wrong; I got a lot of positive feedback. So I kept typing.

I was hired to work at the WPPA on my 27th birthday, and I have been here over half of my life. It has been a terrific place to work, full of professional challenges and opportunities. The membership has been great, which is why me and my colleagues tend to stay here for a long time. You do not fight much amongst yourselves, which is a huge plus for your staff.

When I drive around the state with friends, they are always amazed that I seem to know people in nearly every town. That is because we have ports all over, and it has been a privilege to become friends with port people everywhere. My girls even made up a song they sung in the back seat whenever we drove past a port.

I don't like change. Most of you know our former WPPA staffer and friend Ginger. She used to tell me (with a smile) that I was in a rut so deep I couldn't see out over the top of it.

Well, I am moving out of Olympia, and back to my home County. I got a ladder and climbed out of that rut. I'll see lots of you again. And I'm looking forward to throwing fast balls, instead of trying to hit them.

- Eric Johnson

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

ELECTRICAL ENGINEER – AVIATION FACILITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE | PORT OF SEATTLE

SR CIVIL ENGINEER – AVIATION FACILITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE | PORT OF SEATTLE

COST RECOVERY SPECIALIST | PORT OF SEATTLE

ICT SERVICE DESK TECHNICIAN | PORT OF SEATTLE

ASSISTANT RESIDENT ENGINEER | PORT OF SEATTLE

SEASONAL MOORAGE CLERKS | PORT OF PORT TOWNSEND

SEASONAL MOORAGE CLERKS | PORT OF PORT TOWNSEND

MAINTENANCE HELPER | PORT OF EVERETT

SYSTEMS ANALYST – AVIATION MAINTENANCE | PORT OF SEATTLE

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT | PORT OF BELLINGHAM

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS | PORT OF VANCOUVER

PARKING SERVICES & REVENUE REPRESENTATIVE (TOLL BOOTH/PARKING GARAGE) | PORT OF SEATTLE

INSIDE SALES REPRESENTATIVE | PORT OF VANCOUVER

DIRECTOR AIRPORT OPERATIONS | PORT OF SEATTLE

ASSISTANT RESIDENT ENGINEER | PORT OF SEATTLE

RCF BUS DRIVER RELIEF | PORT OF SEATTLE

COST RECOVERY SPECIALIST | PORT OF SEATTLE

SECURITY OPERATIONS | PORT OF FRIDAY HARBOR

SEASONAL FACILITIES ASSISTANT | PORT OF ANACORTES

CUSTODIAN | PORT OF FRIDAY HARBOR

ELECTRICAL ENGINEER – AVIATION FACILITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE | PORT OF SEATTLE

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN | PORT OF KLICKITAT

SENIOR MANAGER MECHANICAL/ELECTRICAL DESIGN | PORT OF SEATTLE

UPCOMING EVENTS

SPRING MEETING

MAY 15-17, 2019

DAVENPORT HOTEL, SPOKANE

ENVIRONMENTAL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 26-27

CAMPBELL'S RESORT, LAKE CHELAN

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION SEMINAR

JUNE 12-14, 2019

ALDERBROOK INN, UNION

SMALL PORTS SEMINAR

OCTOBER 24-25, 2019

ENZIAN INN, LEAVENWORTH

DIRECTORS SEMINAR

JULY 11-12, 2019

SKAMANIA LODGE, STEVENSON

ANNUAL MEETING

NOVEMBER 20-22, 2019

HOTEL MURANO, TACOMA

COMMISSIONERS SEMINAR

JULY 22-24, 2019

SUNCADIA RESORT, CLE ELUM

If you would like information on any of these positions, visit: washingtonports.org/employment-opportunities