



# Nor'wester newsletter

Issue #703 March 18, 2020

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## Welcome new member Port of Chehalis

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Since forming in 1986, our goal has been to encourage economic development and create more jobs in Chehalis WA.

We are investing in preserving the high quality of life for area residents, recognizing Lewis County's quality of life is one of this area's strongest assets.

Increased employment opportunities, a reduction in unemployment, and increases in real incomes can improve the overall quality of life in our area.

To further our goals, [the Port of Chehalis](#) is a public developer of industrial and commercial property and facilities.

Chief Executive Office Randy Mueller will be the Port's contact with PNWA. He can be reached at 360-748-9365 or [rmueller@portofchehalis.com](mailto:rmueller@portofchehalis.com).

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## TRB Webinar: Transportation & COVID-19 – Practices from other disease outbreaks

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The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Transportation Research Board is hosting a webinar on Monday, March 23 from 11 a.m. to 12:30

p.m. PDT that will identify a holistic approach transportation and health agencies may take to contain and manage the COVID-19 outbreak.



#### Webinar Outline:

1. What we know about how transportation agencies have responded to past communicable outbreaks
2. How should this outbreak be handled by transportation agencies and coordinated between various levels of government and the private sector?
3. Next steps for transportation and public health agencies
4. Question and answer session

[Learn more and register here](#)

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## All CRSO EIS meetings switched to virtual

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Evolving health and safety policies designed to hinder the spread of COVID-19 have prompted federal officials to replace all scheduled in-person public comment meetings with phone-in meetings for the recently released Columbia River System Operation draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Six phone-in opportunities - including one yesterday to which several PNWA members contributed - have been added to the ways the public can submit comments during the comment period. The teleconferences will be run similarly to in-person public hearings. Senior leadership from the co-lead agencies will host each session, and each participant can provide a statement of up to 3 minutes, which will be entered into the official record. Participants will be able to hear each other's testimony.

[Click here for details on when and how to call into the phone sessions.](#)

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## Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority coronavirus op-ed

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"We are concerned the coronavirus may not only be a serious health issue, but perhaps an economic survival issue for some of our small businesses.



What can we do collectively to make a difference?"

[Read the directors' thoughts in the March 13 \*Wenatchee World\* here.](#)

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## MARAD issues NOFOs for AMHP, PIPD

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The U.S. Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration announced Notices of Funding Opportunities for \$225 million in discretionary grant funding through the Port Infrastructure Development Program on March 2, and \$9.5 million in grant funding for the America's Marine Highway Program on March 5.

[View the PIPD NOFO here](#)

[View the AMHP NOFO here](#)

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