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PNWA Congressional update



COVID-19 Package

Negotiations continue on another COVID-19 package against a backdrop of partisan challenges to the potential Supreme Court confirmation of Judge Amy Coney Barrett, and with just a few weeks left before the election.

The Administration's position has changed from supporting a package to calling off negotiations to supporting a piecemeal approach, which has led to some confusion as to what is on the table for negotiation.

The Democrats have pared down their request from \$3.4 trillion to \$2.2 trillion, and are unwilling to budge from that number. A \$1.8 trillion package has been offered in negotiations with Treasury Secretary Mnuchin, but Senate Republicans have balked, citing concerns about long term debt issues. It is unclear if the parties will reach a deal before the elections. The results of the elections could also have an impact on the COVID-19 package.

WRDA 2020

The House passed the Water Resources Development Act 2020 in late July. The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee passed the America's Water Infrastructure Act in May, but the full Senate has not taken up the bill. However, the House and Senate are working on WRDA 2020 conference bill and trying to move forward.

As we understand it, the negotiations have resolved many of the issues. The primary sticking points are whether a broader range of activities should be covered by the

Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund and how the allocation formulas should be modified, if at all. WRDA 2020 is not expected to pass prior to the November elections. It remains unclear how the election results will affect movement on this legislation.

Appropriations

There is also a great deal of uncertainty with respect to Fiscal Year 2021 funding. With the new fiscal year starting Oct. 1, Congress passed a Continuing Resolution (CR) at the end of September to fund government operations through Dec. 11. It is expected that appropriations will be taken up after the elections. The results of the elections may influence whether Congress attempts to pass an omnibus bill before leaving for the winter break, or if another CR will be passed and the new Congress will take up appropriations after they are seated in January. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is always tracking budget and capability as well. PNWA remains engaged with all three Corps districts and the Northwestern Division to ensure our supported projects remain at top of mind whenever FY 2021 funding finally arrives.

Port of Toledo seeks general manager

The Port of Toledo is in the process of hiring a General Manager. The position announcement will open Oct. 15 and run until Nov. 6.

The General Manager for the Port of Toledo is the Port's Chief Executive Officer, responsible for the overall operation and administration of the Port. The General Manager reports directly to the 5-member, publicly elected Port Commission.

View the [full position announcement here](#) when it opens, and learn more [about the Port of Toledo here](#).



Oregon Cyber Resilience Summit is free and virtual this year



Cyber threats represent some of the most significant challenges to national security, our economic systems, and our basic way of life. Cyber risks affect all sectors: critical infrastructure, power and energy, banking, higher education, and many more. The interconnectedness of all sectors of our community causes cyber incidents in one area to affect the whole community. Consequently, to successfully

defend our way of life, it is paramount that we work together to defend our cyber world.

Third Annual Oregon Cyber Resilience Summit

Main Session:

October 15, 2020

[Learn more and register here](#)

This preeminent cyber resilience event takes a "whole community" approach, bringing together the private and public sectors, owners and operators, cybersecurity experts, students, and community members to network and train together to defend our infrastructure from ever-evolving cyber threats. The event is hosted by the University of Oregon and the Technology Association of Oregon in partnership with the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Oregon TITAN Fusion Center, as part of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month.

MARAD, AAPA introduce new Marine Highway Projects module

The American Association of Port Authorities and the U.S. Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration have jointly announced the launch of a new module of the [Port Planning & Investment Toolkit](#) called the [Marine Highways Projects Module](#).

The Toolkit and each of its five modules provides U.S. ports with a common framework and best-practice examples when planning, evaluating, funding and/or financing freight transportation, facility and other port-related improvement projects.

The Marine Highway Projects Module provides an overview of America's Marine Highway Program and educates readers on how marine highway services can become designated projects by USDOT. It explains how to plan a new marine highway service, determine its feasibility and identify possible funding mechanisms. This new Toolkit module will be updated periodically as new regulations and policies affecting marine highway planning, feasibility and investment requirements related to the applicable laws discussed in the document are developed.



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