



# Nor'wester newsletter

Issue #752 February 17, 2021

## In This Issue

- Welcome new member Port of Bremerton
- Thank you 2021 Mission to Washington sponsor
- Save the date: Cascadia Rising 2022 exercise overview briefing
- House T&I Committee releases new COVID-19 relief details
- T&I subcommittee hears COVID-19 impacts on maritime sector
- Transportation COVID-19 testing/cleaning/PPE bill introduced
- NOAA hosts Hydro Services Review Panel meeting webinar

## Welcome new member Port of Bremerton

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[The Port of Bremerton](#) increases economic opportunity for all of Kitsap County through the direct creation of sustainable family-wage jobs, development of local infrastructure to support economic activity, and amenities that improve the local quality of life.

Chief Executive Officer Jim Rothlin will be the Port's designated representative to PNWA. Jim can be reached at 360-813-0821 or [jimr@portofbremerton.org](mailto:jimr@portofbremerton.org).



## Thank you 2021 Mission to Washington sponsor

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Thank you to our newest [2021 Mission to Washington](#) sponsor for your generous support!

**Platinum Sponsor**



# THE NORTHWEST SEAPORT ALLIANCE

*Additional sponsorships are available.* Increase your organization's visibility to our members, partners and friends while supporting PNWA's advocacy efforts. [Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum levels](#) are available. [Sign up online](#) when you register for the conference or [contact Randi Besser](#).

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## Save the date: Cascadia Rising 2022 exercise overview briefing

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# FEMA

A large magnitude Cascadia Subduction Zone fault earthquake and tsunami is perhaps one of the most complex disaster scenarios that we face in the Pacific Northwest. Due to this complexity, lifesaving and life-sustaining response operations will hinge on the effective coordination and integration of governments at all levels – cities, counties, state agencies, federal departments, the military, and tribal nations – as well as non-governmental organizations and the private sector.

Cascadia Rising is a four-day Functional Exercise occurring the week of June 13, 2022. Participating Emergency Operation and Coordination Centers at all levels of government and the private sector in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho will activate to coordinate simulated field response operations, both within their jurisdictions and also with neighboring communities, the State EOCs, FEMA, and major military commands.

You are invited to attend this briefing to learn about the exercise and opportunities to participate.

**WHAT:** Cascadia Rising Exercise 2022 Overview – Private Sector

**WHO:** Primary audience is the private sector with staff, property, or other assets located in Region 10.

**WHERE:** [Register](#) prior to the event. The webinar will be facilitated through Adobe Connect.

**WHEN:** February 22, 2021, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. PST

**WHY:** The private sector is a key partner in the success of a response to a catastrophic

disaster. We welcome the private sector's involvement in both the design of the exercise and actual play.

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## House T&I Committee releases new COVID-19 relief details

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House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Chair Peter DeFazio (D, OR-4) [released new details](#) of the COVID-19 relief proposal to help fill out President Biden's \$1.9 trillion framework, the American Rescue Plan, which includes nearly \$100 billion within the Committee's jurisdiction.



The House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's portion of the FY21 budget reconciliation bill includes:

- FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund: \$50 billion for reimbursement to state, local, tribal, and territorial governments dealing with ongoing response and recovery activities from COVID-19, including vaccination efforts, deployment of the National Guard, providing personal protective equipment for critical public sector employees, and disinfecting activities in public facilities such as schools and courthouses.
- Transit: \$30 billion to help assist with operating costs, including payroll and personal protective equipment.
- Airports: \$8 billion, including \$800 million for airport concessionaires.
- Economic Development Administration: \$3 billion to provide economic adjustment assistance to help prevent, prepare for, and respond to economic injury caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Aerospace manufacturing: \$3 billion for a temporary payroll support program to retain or rehire workers.
- Amtrak: \$1.5 billion to recall and pay employees furloughed due to the COVID-19 pandemic through the end of fiscal year 2021 and to restore daily long-distance service.

In addition, Chair DeFazio strongly supports extension of the Payroll Support Program for aviation workers, a program he has championed since the onset of the global pandemic. Since the PSP is administered by the Secretary of the Treasury it is included in the reconciliation proposals put forth by the House Financial Services Committee.

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## T&I subcommittee hears COVID-19 impacts on maritime sector

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The House Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing Feb. 9 on "The State of the U.S. Maritime Industry: Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic."

[Watch the hearing here](#)



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## Transportation COVID-19 testing/cleaning/PPE bill introduced

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Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D, CT) introduced S.303 on Feb. 8, a "bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to support the efforts of State and local governments to provide for priority testing of certain transportation workers with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and require the owners and operators of equipment and facilities used by passenger or freight transportation employers to clean, disinfect, and sanitize that equipment and provide personal protective equipment to certain employees, and for other purposes."

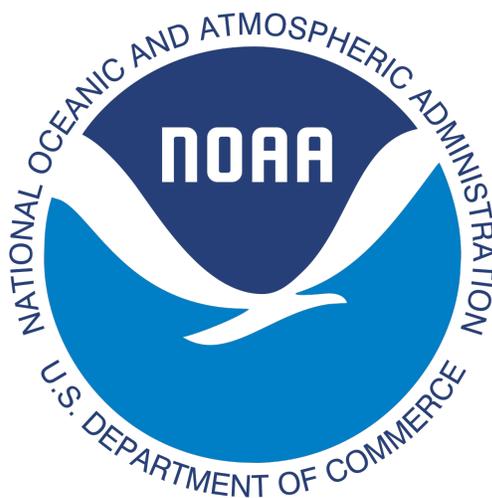


The bill has been referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation chaired by Senator Maria Cantwell (D, WA). Text has not yet been posted online, but we will continue to track it moving forward.

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## NOAA hosts Hydro Services Review Panel meeting webinar

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The next NOAA Hydrographic Services Review Panel Federal Advisory Committee meeting will focus on issues related to hydrographic and navigation services, including topics affecting the National Ocean Service's Office of Coast Survey, Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services, National Geodetic Survey, and the University of New Hampshire's and NOAA's Joint Hydrographic Center and Center for Coastal Ocean Mapping.

The meeting will have a focus on resilience, with 2 special sessions highlighting NOS's data backbone - the products, technology, operations and systems - that support resilience, including coastal modeling. There will be an update on the ocean and coastal mapping implementation plans for NOMECS, "Establishing a National Strategy for Mapping, Exploring, and Characterizing the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone, June 2020," and the Alaska Coastal Mapping Strategy and other topics.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS and questions are encouraged by February 26, 2021:**

The comments should address the topics of the meeting and NOS's navigation

services, data and products, be no longer than 2 minutes and not repeat other comments. The comments will be shared with the HSRP members in advance and included in the meeting record. Please email letters and comments to:

[Melanie.Colantuno@noaa.gov](mailto:Melanie.Colantuno@noaa.gov), [Virginia.Dentler@noaa.gov](mailto:Virginia.Dentler@noaa.gov),  
[hydroservices.panel@noaa.gov](mailto:hydroservices.panel@noaa.gov)

**Meeting Information, Webinar, and Times:**

The final meeting agenda, background documents and presentations will be [posted prior to the meeting here](#).

Webinar: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6060715212000442635>

Advance registration is recommended.

Time/speakers are subject to change  
March 3, 2021, 9:45 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. PST  
March 4, 2021, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. PST

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