



Nor'wester newsletter

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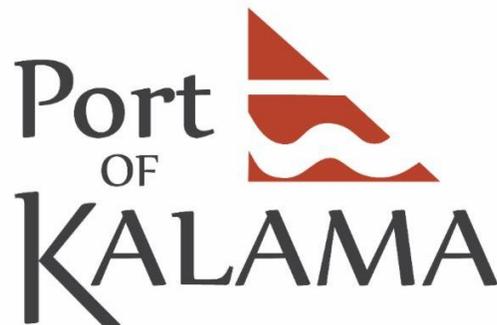
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Thank you 2021 Mission to Washington sponsor

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

Gold Sponsor



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](#).

Walla Walla District explains McNary navigation lock needs

PNWA staff are grateful to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Walla Walla District for providing an in-depth tour of McNary Lock and Dam's navigation lock on Feb. 25.

Many of the lock's components date to the dam's construction. The District is doing an outstanding job utilizing existing resources to increase safety and prevent unplanned closures, but important infrastructure needs must be addressed. The information learned during the tour will help PNWA shape advocacy messaging for annual appropriations and a large infrastructure stimulus package that could materialize in the next few months.



FEMA calls for Port Security Grant Program applications



FEMA

The [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) for this year's Port Security Grant Program is out. There is little change from the 2020 NOFO, so if you use that to prepare you are in good shape. FEMA is also holding [webinars to assist potential grant applicants](#).

The application period runs until May 14, 2021 at 2 p.m. PDT. Submissions will be via grants.gov. Late applications will not be accepted. \$100 million is available nationwide.

National priorities are the same as last year. Cyber security is the one National Priority, and projects deemed to effectively address this priority will get a 20% increase in overall score. FEMA anticipates awarding at least 20% of PSGP funding to this priority. However, non-cyber projects will be funded as well, with preference given to those addressing enduring security needs (2nd tier priorities):

1. Enhancing the protection of soft targets/crowded places;
2. Addressing emerging threats (e.g., transnational criminal organizations, weapons of mass destruction, unmanned aerial systems, etc.);
3. Effective planning;
4. Training and awareness campaigns;
5. Equipment and capital projects; and
6. Exercises

The cost match is the same as previous years: 25% for public applicants, 50% for private. However, if a private applicant project is deemed to have "port-wide benefit" the cost match drops to 25%. No match is required for total project costs of \$25,000 or less, or for law enforcement security zone training.

Public sector applicants and projects certified to have port-wide benefit also get a 10%

final score increase.

Projects are scored (and funded) based on their perceived effectiveness in addressing one or more of the priorities discussed above. Spell out in the Investment Justification how your project will address the priorities in order to clarify your project's effectiveness for the scoring/review panels. See pages 28-29 of the NOFO for an overview of the review/selection process.

Please contact Sector Columbia River Port Security Specialist [Stuart Blanchette](#) with any questions about this program.

Roll Call: House appropriators officially bring back earmarks

House Democrats are officially resurrecting earmarks, ending a decade-long prohibition on Congressionally directed spending and giving lawmakers new tools to ensure critical projects are funded.

House Democrats' earmarks plan will cap the total amount of money that can be spent on earmarks to 1 percent of total discretionary spending.

For-profit entities will not be eligible for earmarks and the Government Accountability Office will audit the process by looking at a "sample" of enacted earmarks and submitting a report to Congress.

Members will be capped at submitting 10 earmark requests per fiscal year, though they aren't guaranteed to get those earmarks included in the annual government funding bills. Lawmakers must provide evidence their communities support the earmarks they submit.

[Read the entire *Roll Call* article here](#)



Cascadia Rising 2022 exercise brief and next steps



FEMA

FEMA hosted a Cascadia Rising Exercise 2022 Brief webinar for non-federal partners on Feb. 22.

A copy of the presentation to share with others is [here](#).

A recording of the webinar is [here](#).

The "Only a matter of time: The disaster awaiting the Pacific Northwest" video shared during the webinar is [here](#).

If you are interested in participating in this 2022 exercise, please contact the appropriate coordinator:

Private Sector Coordinators

Idaho Office of Emergency Management
[Jon Hanian](#), Public-Private Partnerships Program Manager

Oregon Office of Emergency Management
[Sonya McCormick](#), Public-Private Partnership Manager

Washington Emergency Management Division
[Taylor Hennessee](#), Private Sector and Critical Infrastructure Program Manager

Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
[Tom Koloski](#), Emergency Management Specialist III

Non-Private Sector Coordinators

Washington Emergency Management Division
[Laura Hann](#)

Oregon Office of Emergency Management
[Amanda Mathis](#)

Idaho Office of Emergency Management
[Dave Ayers](#)

Washington Potato Commission meets with Rep. Newhouse

Washington State Potato Commission members met with Rep. Dan Newhouse (R, WA-4) last week to discuss important topics like modernizing critical water infrastructure, improving international trade agreements, and supporting agriculture research.

Although Washington tends to be better known throughout the U.S. and world for other products, potatoes are actually the state's third largest commodity, and Washington is the second largest potato producer in the country.



Learn more at the best website URL ever: <https://www.potatoes.com/>

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