



# Nor'wester Newsletter

Issue #862 | November 7, 2023

[PNWA Website](#)

[About PNWA](#)

[Action Agenda](#)

[PNWA Events](#)

[Contact Us](#)

## In This Issue

- DeFazio Transit Station Dedication at PDX
- PNWA Feedback Request on EPA Clean Ports Program
- Ports Awarded in Maritime Administration PIDP Grants
- Washington State Public Works Board
- Welcome Mary Wiley, Communications Manager

## DeFazio Transit Station Dedication at PDX



On October 27, the Port of Portland and TriMet dedicated the Portland airport transit station in honor of former House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Honorable Peter DeFazio (D, OR-4). The region will reap the benefits of his work on light rail, bridges, waterways, and other critical infrastructure needs for many years to come. In addition to leadership from the Port of Portland and TriMet, retiring Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D, OR-3), Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici (D, OR-1) and former Congressman David Wu also participated in the event. PNWA staff thanked former Congressman DeFazio and will continue to engage with him on regulatory and inland waterway infrastructure issues.

---

## PNWA Feedback Request on EPA Clean Ports Program

---

We are seeking feedback from our membership on the EPA's Clean Ports Program. A webinar was held by the EPA on October 31st to discuss some of the details of the program and how the EPA plans to allocate the \$3 Billion from the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) for the program. The IRA provides that all Clean Ports program funds must be obligated by September 30, 2027. The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is anticipated in February or March 2024, so if there are items we would like to advocate for changing in the program, now is the time to say so! Please take a moment to complete this brief survey by Friday, November 10th.



---

## Ports Awarded Millions in Maritime Administration PIDP Grants

---



November 2, 2023, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration (MARAD) announced over \$653 million to fund 41 port improvement projects across the nation under the Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP). As part of President Biden's Investing in America agenda – a key pillar of Bidenomics – this funding will help grow capacity and increase efficiency at coastal seaports, Great Lakes ports, and inland river ports. A significant portion of domestic and international U.S. commerce by weight, (over 2.3 billion short tons) moves by water. The port improvement projects announced today will strengthen supply chain reliability, create workforce development opportunities, speed up the movement of goods, and improve the safety, reliability and resilience of ports. These investments are part of the largest dedicated funding for ports and waterways in history – nearly \$17 billion through the President's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

Select Grants Include:

- Ko'Kwel Wharf Improvements Project (\$7,729,650) North Bend, Oregon
- Pier 2 West Rehabilitation Project (\$25,315,758) Astoria, Oregon
- Operational Capacity Improvements at the Port of Newport (\$3,444,100) Newport, Oregon
- Port of Tacoma Husky Terminal Expansion Part One (\$54,233,330) Tacoma, Washington

Click here for the full list: <https://www.maritime.dot.gov/grants-finances/federal-grant-assistance/pidp-2023-awards-fact-sheets>

To Read More: <https://www.maritime.dot.gov/newsroom/biden-harris-administration-invests-more-653-million-ports-strengthen-american-supply>

---

## Washington Public Works Board opens application cycle for broadband funding

---



The Washington State Public Works Board opens applications for broadband funding, offering \$15.8 million in grants and low-interest loans for broadband

construction projects. Projects in distressed counties are eligible for 30% grant and 70% loan funding until funds are exhausted. Local governments, tribes, nonprofit organizations, cooperative associations, multiparty entities, limited liability corporations (LLC), and incorporated businesses or partnerships are eligible to apply. The Board may award funds to projects passing threshold ratings based on a competitive ranking process.

Approximately \$15.8 million is available for broadband construction projects. The pre-application deadline is 11:59 p.m. on January 4, 2024. A 30-day objection period will follow, and final applications are due at 11:59 p.m. on March 22, 2024. Awards are expected in May 2024.

#### VIRTUAL APPLICATION WORKSHOPS

The Public Works Board encourages potential applicants to take advantage of virtual application workshops scheduled for Nov. 16, 2023 and Feb. 15, 2024. No registration is required, and attendance is not required to submit a funding application.

- Nov. 16, 2023 workshop, 10 –11 a.m. (Zoom meeting)
- Feb. 15, 2024 workshop, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. (Zoom meeting)

Workshops will be recorded and posted later on [pwb.wa.gov](https://pwb.wa.gov).

Complete details this funding opportunity, including links to the ZoomGrants online application, are available on the Public Works Board broadband financing webpage.

---

## PNWA Welcomes Mary Wiley as Communication Manager

---



Help us welcome our newest staff member Mary Wiley. As PNWA's Communications Manager, Mary Wiley will provide leadership and management for communications and public relations activities. She is responsible for utilizing various marketing channels to promote PNWA's activities and engage with our members. This includes managing the website, social media, email campaigns, Nor'wester newsletters, press releases, and other promotional materials. Additionally, Mary will coordinate member services ensure a positive member experience and manage event planning.

In her previous position with Merchants Exchange as Marketing and Membership Manager, Mary led the Shipping Education Series and worked to expand member outreach and increase engagement through marketing and communications strategies. In prior positions, Mary provided marketing and communications services for architects and engineers including energy efficiency programs for regional and national utilities companies. Additionally, she provided corporate communications for The Greenbrier Companies, the former parent company of Gunderson.

She is a graduate of Iowa State University and is a certified professional in digital marketing strategies from Portland State University. She makes her home in Northeast Portland with her son and two dogs.

[PNWA Website](#)

[About PNWA](#)

[Action Agenda](#)

[PWA Events](#)

[Contact Us](#)