

*Port of Vancouver USA*  
*Board of Commissioners Meeting*

APRIL 9, 2024



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# *Open Forum*

To provide virtual oral comment during the board meeting, you must register no later than 12:00 p.m. Monday, April 8, 2024, by emailing [povcommissioners@portvanusa.com](mailto:povcommissioners@portvanusa.com)



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# *Action Items*



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# *Action Item E-1*

Resolution 3-2024: Issuance and Sale of Limited Tax  
General Obligation Bonds



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# *Unfinished Business*

PORT CONTRACTS LOGS



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# *New Business*



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# *Accounts Payable*



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# *CEO Report*





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# *CEO Report I-1*

Project Updates



# Port of Vancouver

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Experience Vancouver Lake! Educate Engage Explore

Port of Vancouver Update

April 9, 2024

Chris Hathaway

Community Programs Director

Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership



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- Engage Vancouver area students and community members in a comprehensive watershed outreach program that builds community awareness and appreciation for Vancouver Lake.



# July 2015 – March 2024

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- Education to 78 classes
- 197 classroom lessons
- 29 student field trips to Vancouver Lake
- 144 adult chaperones



# July 2015 – March 2024

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- 37 community paddles on Vancouver Lake
- 642 people on the Big Canoes
  - General public
  - Community Groups



# July 2015 – March 2024

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- 10 community groups so far
  - Big Brothers Big Sisters
  - Cub Scouts
  - Family Promise of Clark County
  - Friends of the Children SW WA
  - Girl Scouts
  - iUrban Teen
  - Lower Columbia Nature Network
  - Skyline House-VHA
  - Wildwood Scouts
  - Youth Heritage Project



# July 2015 – March 2024

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## Highlights:

- Increasing focus on diverse community groups
- Covid pivot
  - On-line lessons
  - Mapping
  - Other resources
- Teacher, student, community feedback



# Teacher Feedback - Minnehaha Elementary

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The Estuary Partnership's classroom lessons provided valuable background knowledge and vocabulary exposure for students prior to heading out into the field. The lesson was engaging and interesting- the students really enjoyed the hands-on aspect and seeing real life artifacts.





# Teacher Feedback - Minnehaha Elementary

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- Getting my students out into nature is such an amazing gift. Many of these kids live in apartments and do not have a lot of opportunities to explore the world around them. Also, having access to tools such as binoculars allows them to draw from this experience later, building upon their previous knowledge in authentic ways.



# Teacher Feedback - Minnehaha Elementary

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- For days afterwards I heard about how much the students all enjoyed the field trip. Parents, too, mentioned how great it was. The Estuary educators are professional, prepared, and knowledgeable.



# Teacher Feedback – Sarah J Anderson

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- “MY CLASS LOVED THE LESSONS!” and “LOTS of my students are proud of helping their community and now are looking for ways to help out on their own.”



# Teacher Feedback – Sarah J Anderson

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- “Let us come back next year...make this a 4th grade opportunity at Sarah J Anderson every year! It would be great to have the students look forward to 4th grade for these lessons!”  
– 4th grade teacher, Sarah J Anderson Elementary



# Teacher Feedback – Hough Elementary

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- The lessons and field trips have been the highlight of our year so far! Getting to dissect a trout is an experience they will never forget. And getting the students out of the classroom and into nature with an expert to guide us was such a rich learning experience. Students learned so much about different birds, bugs and the ecosystem around Vancouver Lake.



# Teacher Feedback – Hough Elementary

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- Class lessons & field lessons provide an expertise and resources that I, as a classroom teacher, would not be able to provide. Lessons are hands on and very engaging, students look forward to this opportunity every year.



# Teacher Feedback – Hough Elementary

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- One student in particular is wheelchair bound, and he was able to get out in nature, on a trail and get his hands on things he has never touched before. He expressed that he hadn't been on a hike, and he had never held a frog or a caterpillar before. These are things that I know will stick with him and make him eager to get back out in nature when he has the opportunity to do so.



# Teacher Feedback – Hough Elementary

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- I have a couple of favorite stories: When we were on the trail approaching the lake, and Vancouver Lake came into view, one of my students stopped in his tracks and said "Oh, it is so beautiful. Can anyone come here?" Another is my observational experience with one of my more "active" students in class. He walked by my side the entire trip, by choice, and was curious about everything we saw. He hushed the other children so we could hear the birds and just found every little thing to point out and ask about. I've never seen him so engaged!





# Upcoming Spring 2024

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- 4 classes
  - 2 from Marshall Elementary
  - 2 from Lakeshore Elementary
- About 115 students engaged
- 3 class lessons for each class
  - Native Plants
  - Intro to Bird Identification
  - Trout Dissection
  - Animal Tracks



# Upcoming Spring 2024

- Three Big Canoe trips
- One Family Nature Hike
- Communication about Vancouver Lake

## EXPERIENCE VANCOUVER LAKE APRIL 20

Join Estuary Partnership Educators for a morning of exploring the shoreline and forest around Vancouver Lake! Celebrate Earth Day by learning about the flora and fauna who frequent the lake through walking the trails, observing great blue herons on the shoreline or eagles overhead, and listening for bird calls and songs.



Participants will also learn basic nature journaling practices, and there will be materials for watercolor, sketching, and recording the observations and curiosities that you encounter. Bird, plant, and insect guidebooks and binoculars for bird watching will also be provided.

Space is limited! Register soon to secure your spot.

[Register Now](#)

Thanks to City of Vancouver, Clark County, and Port of Vancouver USA for supporting this interactive, family-friendly event.

# July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

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- Two-three classroom lessons for 12 classes (~256 students)
- Vancouver Lake field trip (4-hour) for 12 classes
- Nine Big Canoe paddles
- Two family nature hikes
- Vancouver Lake communication and coordination



# July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

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- Two-three classroom lessons for 10 classes (~220 students)
- Vancouver Lake field trip (4-hour) for 10 classes
- Eight Big Canoe paddles
- One family nature hike
- Vancouver Lake communication and coordination



# Burnt Bridge Creek Restoration Project

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- Mouth of Burnt Bridge Creek
- Water quality focused restoration designs
  - Reconnect the creek to the floodplain
  - Capture pollutants and sediment
- Reduce high flows, recharge ground water
- Preliminary restoration designs being developed by Wolf Water Resources
- Funding from an Estuary Partnership WA Ecology 319 grant



# Grattix Box !

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- Thank you!
- Port of Vancouver amazingly helpful with Estuary Partnership Grattix Box project
- Built and placed approximately 15 Grattix Boxes at sites in the lower Columbia region
- Port of Vancouver critical partner
- Thank you!



# Questions:

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# *CEO Report I-2*

Renaissance Trail Segments Four and Five



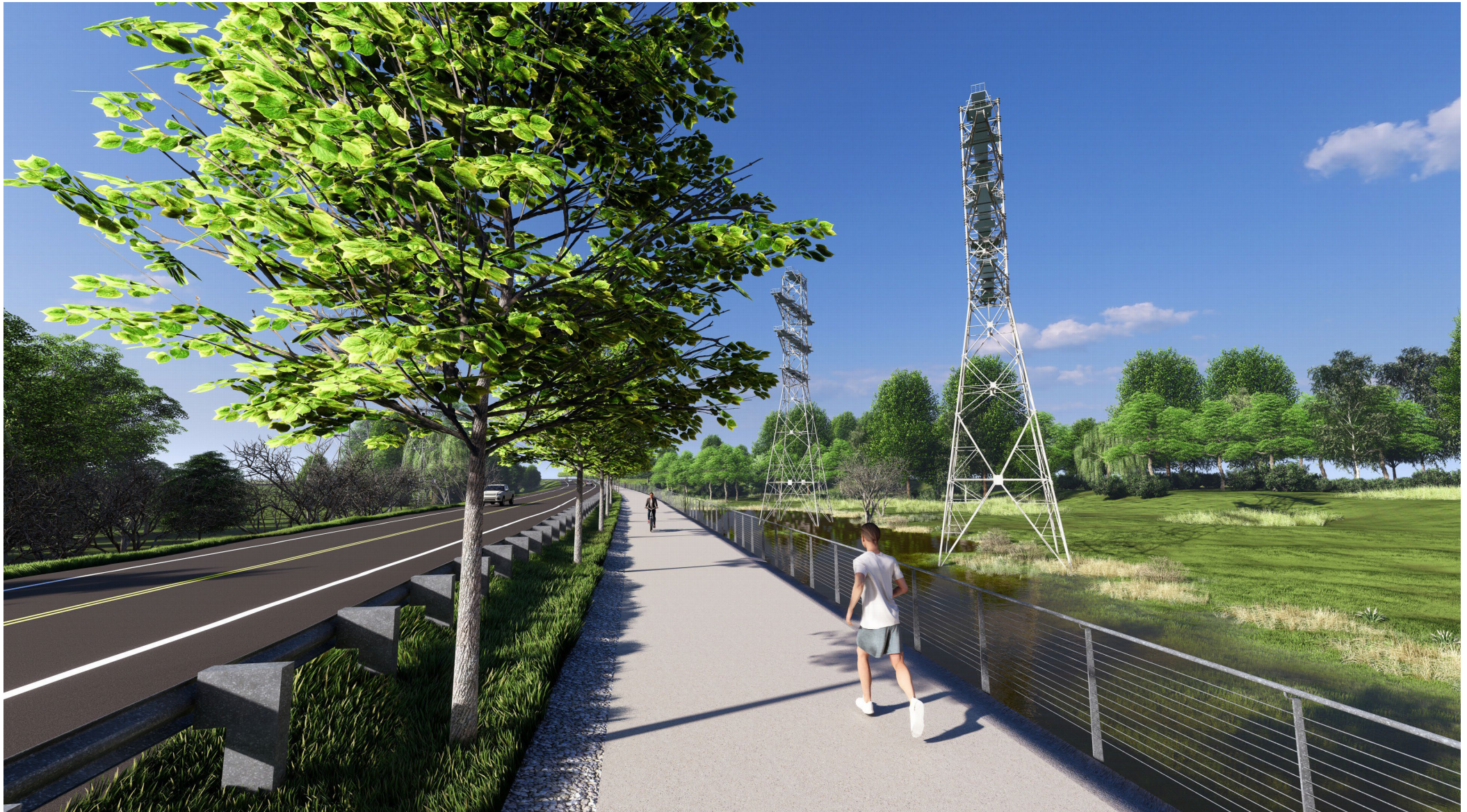




# PORT OF VANCOUVER TRAIL SEGMENTS 4 & 5

TRAIL SEGMENT 4 & 5





**PORT OF VANCOUVER TRAIL SEGMENTS 4 & 5**  
TRAIL AT SEGMENT 5





**PORT OF VANCOUVER TRAIL SEGMENTS 4 & 5**  
TRAIL BUMPOUT LOOKING NORTH WEST





**PORT OF VANCOUVER TRAIL SEGMENTS 4 & 5**  
TRAIL AT SEGMENT 4





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# *CEO Report*



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# *Commissioners Reports*



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# *Upcoming Events*

## **Next Commission Meeting**

- Regular Commission Meeting – Tuesday, April 23, 9:30 a.m.

## **Community Events**

- Port Public Tours open for registration today, April 9. Sign up on the port's website ([porvanusa.com](http://porvanusa.com)) under "community" and "port tours." Ten tours offered at various times and dates from May through September.
- Arnada Neighborhood Association - Thursday, April 11, 7:00 p.m., Vancouver Housing Authority
- Guided Tour of Columbia Springs and Trout Hatchery - Wednesday, April 17, 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Free event at Columbia Springs; wear walking shoes and dress for the weather.
- Native American Parent Association Powwow - Saturday, April 20, 12:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m., Clark College O'Connell Sports Center, free event. Grand entry at 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.; drop in event and family friendly.
- Final Port Public Lecture - Wednesday, April 24, 6:30 p.m., "The Mighty Columbia – Our Working River", with Captain Jeremy Nielsen of the Columbia River Pilots. Free event at the Kiggins Theater. RSVP on the port's website under "community" and "events."





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# *Communicating with the Commission*

- Share your thoughts during Open Forum, the public comment period for all regularly scheduled commission meetings.
- Email the commissioners at [povcommissioners@portvanusa.com](mailto:povcommissioners@portvanusa.com)
- Speak to the commissioners by calling the port office at 360-693-3611 for specific contact information.
- Mail your comments to:  
POV Board of Commissioners  
3103 NW Lower River Road, Vancouver, WA 98660
- For more information, visit the port's website: [www.portvanusa.com](http://www.portvanusa.com)



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