Container Port Element

City of Tacoma
Planning and Development Services

October 16, 2013
HB 1959 GMA Amendment (2009)
Container Port Element

An act relating to land-use and transportation planning for marine container ports
Legislative Findings and Statement of Intent

“The legislature finds that Washington's marine container ports operate within a complex system of marine terminal operations, truck and train transportation corridors, and industrial services...
Legislative Findings and Statement of Intent

...container port services are increasingly challenged by the conversion of industrial properties to nonindustrial uses...

...to ensure that container ports continue to function effectively alongside vibrant city waterfronts.”
What is the Container Port Element?

- Provision of Washington Growth Management Act [RCW 36.70A.085]
- Mandatory for the Ports of Seattle and Tacoma (optional for other Washington State ports)
- State funded consultants (EA/Blumen): $100,000 grant with $50,000 in-kind match from both the City and Port
- Must be developed collaboratively between the City and the Port [RCW 36.70A.085 (3)]
Key Requirements

• Define and protect the core areas of port and port-related industrial uses

• Provide reasonably efficient freight access

• Minimize and mitigate incompatible land uses along the edge next to the core area
Port of Tacoma
Major Port Facilities

- 6 terminals for containerized cargo
- 4 intermodal rail facilities
- TEMCO/Cargill Grain Terminal
How was the Plan Developed?

New policies are being proposed that emphasize and support Port operations within a ‘core area’ and protect this ‘core’.
Port Container and Transitional Areas
How was the Plan Developed?

• In a manner consistent with
  – Tacoma Comprehensive Plan,
  – Tacoma Shoreline Master Plan, and
  – Port of Tacoma Comprehensive Scheme of Harbor Improvements

• Coordination with neighboring jurisdictions, in particular the City of Fife

• Stakeholder and general public input
Central Issues

• What does it mean to be in the core area?

• What does it mean to be in a transition area?
Plans, Policies and Regulations

- Washington State Growth Management Act
- Puget Sound Regional Council Designation Criteria for Regional Manufacturing/Industrial Centers
- Pierce County Countywide Planning Policies
- Tacoma Comprehensive Plan and zoning designations
- Shoreline Master Program
Plans, Policies and Regulations

• Port of Tacoma Comprehensive Scheme of Harbor Improvements
• City of Fife Comprehensive Plan and zoning designations
• Pierce County Comprehensive Plan and zoning designations
• Puyallup Tribe consultation
• Regional Plans, e.g. Vision 2040 and Transportation 2040
Transportation

- Identify infrastructure and services needed to support existing and planned port land uses

- Protect key roadways, railways, and intermodal facilities from encroachment
Transportation

• Areas of potential issues/opportunities
  – Address capacity bottleneck points
  – Improve system operations
    • e.g., signal coordination, intermodal connections
  – Improve regional access/circulation
  – Coordinate between jurisdictions
Land Use Goals and Policies

Core Area

Identify the core area and protect the long-term function and viability of this area.
Land Use Goals and Policies

Supporting policies address:

• Protection of core area for specified port uses
• Land use compatibility
• Intergovernmental coordination
陆地使用目标和政策

-转换区域-

建立一个围绕核心区域的过渡区，以保护核心区域的持续性，同时为向较大周边地区更少密集型发展提供一个兼容的过渡。

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Land Use Goals and Policies

Supporting policies address:

• Transition area – size, function, uses
• Transition area character – conflicting uses, supporting uses
• Protecting and developing industrial lands, businesses, and infrastructure
Transportation Goal

Identify, protect and preserve the transportation infrastructure and services needed for efficient multimodal movement of goods within and between the core area, port transitional areas, and the regional transportation system.
Transportation Goal

Supporting policies address:

- Designation of regional and local freight truck routes
- Emphasis on maintenance/preservation of existing system
- Priorities for infrastructure improvements and utility access
- Intergovernmental partnerships for transportation projects and funding
Capital Facilities

Future capital facilities policies address:

- Infrastructure improvements that promote long-term viability of area activities
- Funding sources and responsibilities
- Maintenance and operations
Next Steps

Public meeting/public review

Public hearings

City review and adoption in mid 2014

www.cityoftacoma.org/planning

(click on “Container Port Element”)
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