





NEWS RELEASE

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Port of Ridgefield, City of Ridgefield and Clark Regional Wastewater District partner on economic development project

Joint project improves infrastructure, builds trail in southeast Ridgefield

RIDGEFIELD, Wash. – The Port of Ridgefield, City of Ridgefield and Clark Regional Wastewater District (District) are partnering on a joint project to support economic development and livability as Ridgefield continues to grow.

The agencies are coordinating funding and resources to upgrade the sewer line between South First Cir. and South Timm Rd., maintain a Port-owned stormwater facility, and build a new pedestrian trail for nearby businesses and residents. The construction contract was awarded by the District in May to North Cascade Excavating. Construction started this month and is expected to be complete in late 2023.

"The project is a win-win-win," said Port of Ridgefield CEO Randy Mueller. "By working together, the Port, the City and the District are improving our community while saving tax dollars through efficiencies in permitting, environmental requirements, and contracting. We're very appreciative of our partners and look forward to the successful completion of work later this year."

"We are appreciative of this partnership and excited to get started on a project that supports our growing community and connects residents and businesses to natural areas," said Mayor Jennifer Lindsay. "In early 2024, people will be able to use a brand-new, 8-foot-wide, 2,000-foot-long trail through a green space at the Junction."

"This was originally a project to upgrade a trunk line and increase wastewater capacity for the growing area around the Ridgefield Junction," said District Engineering Director Heath Henderson. "When the Port and City approached us with their projects, it just made sense to bring them all together into one joint effort to cost-effectively maintain and build our infrastructure. The new trail will also provide access for our crews to perform future maintenance."

The District is managing this joint project in close coordination with the Port and City, with each agency paying for its portion of the project.

Review pages 14-15 of the District's <u>Ridgefield Service Area Capital Program Project Profiles</u> to learn more about the sewer line upgrade project.

Learn more about the Port of Ridgefield at www.portridgefield.org.

The Port of Ridgefield is a community port with a track record of successfully tackling complex challenges. Located in a fast-growing suburb in the Portland-Vancouver Metro Area, the port focuses on environmental stewardship, infrastructure projects that generate economic benefit and help reduce the tax burden for citizens, and community projects that support quality of life in Ridgefield and Southwest Washington. Learn more at portridgefield.org.

