



**COMMISSION**  
**AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

**Item No.** 8f

**ACTION ITEM**

**Date of Meeting** September 10, 2019

**DATE:** September 3, 2019  
**TO:** Stephen P. Metruck, Executive Director  
**FROM:** Mike Merritt, Commission Chief of Staff  
Paul J. White, Commission Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Commission bylaws object statement amendment

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Request Adoption of Resolution No. 3761: A resolution of the Port of Seattle Commission amending Resolution Nos. 3742, 3744, and 3754, regarding bylaws governing the organization and transaction of business of the Port of Seattle Commission, to revise the object statement in Article I.

**SUMMARY**

The Port of Seattle currently lacks consistent messaging in its mission as an entity. As the Port continues advancing economic growth in a sustainable and equitable manner, its mission statement should be one that reflects those priorities consistently.

The Port's current mission statement exists on the Port's website. There are different iterations of the mission statement on publicly accessible documents such the Port's Long Range Plans, the Commission bylaws and the footer of Commission regular and special meeting agendas.

The overarching goal for updating the Port's mission statement is to have a statement that simply and accurately conveys the Port of Seattle's duties and commitment towards King County and its residents that is consistent across the board. Important elements of an updated mission statement are commitments to equity, accountability/transparency, environmental sustainability, and quality of life.

The text of the resolution introduced on August 13 is attached to this memo. Further refinement of this text is proposed in an amendment filed September 4 that, if adopted, would have the bylaws read as follows:

Founded in 1911 by a vote of the people as a special purpose government, the Port of Seattle's mission is to promote economic opportunities and the quality of life in the region by advancing trade, travel, and commerce in an equitable, accountable, and environmentally responsible manner.

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This proposal reflects basic port authority around trade, travel, and commerce and adds the responsibilities to support quality of life, equity, accountability, and environmental stewardship.

The amendment would add the following underlined text about how the port commission is constituted by elaborating on Article II, Section 1 (Membership). The verbiage at the end of this section is existing text to which no change is proposed:

*The Port is led by a board of five commissioners elected by King County voters to four-year terms pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 53.12 RCW.* Election and terms of port commissioners....

The amendment will be considered for adoption prior to adoption of the resolution at the commission regular meeting of September 10, 2019.

Attachments to this memo include a draft of Resolution 3761 as introduced on August 13, proposed Amendment 1, and redline of the proposed bylaws change.