



**COMMISSION
AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

Item No. 8d

ACTION ITEM

Date of Meeting May 26, 2026

DATE : May 19, 2026
TO: Stephen P. Metruck, Executive Director
FROM: Anna Pavlik, Workforce Development Director, EDD
SUBJECT: **Maritime High School Interlocal Agreement**

Amount of this request: \$0
Previously authorized: \$600,000
Total contract value: \$600,000

ACTION REQUESTED

Request Commission authorization for the Executive Director to execute an amendment to the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with Highline Public Schools on behalf of Maritime High School with \$100,000 in funding previously approved in the 2026 budget.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

These operating funds are to make maritime careers more visible to BIPOC communities which is in line with the Port's values of equity and accessibility.

JUSTIFICATION

Request Commission authorization for the Executive Director to execute an amendment to the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with Highline Public Schools on behalf of Maritime High School with \$100,000 in funding previously approved in the 2026 budget.

DETAILS

Scope of Work

Maritime High School launched in Fall 2021 and is operated by the Highline School District and includes curricula focused on Port-related industries, including maritime and green jobs. The school is designed to expose students to the educational and employment opportunities provided by the region's maritime industry and to develop and sustain a workforce that mirrors the diversity of the residents of South King County.

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The ILA amendment strengthens several sections of the ILA by providing resources and greater partnership between Port staff and the school to make maritime careers more visible to BIPOC communities. Strategies include, but are not limited to:

- Specific and targeted outreach to youth-serving organizations in the Duwamish Valley.
- Expanding the Marine Construction educational pathway by partnering with South Seattle College.
- Expanding Field Work Experiences to 9th and 10th graders, not just juniors and seniors
- Leverage Port industry relationships to increase industry participation in the Vessel Operations and Marine Construction programs including mentorships, internships, attending student presentations, offering field work experiences, job shadows and providing informational interviews.
- Continue industry mentorship of 10th grade students with guidance provided on chosen maritime career pathways.
- Regularly reflect on feedback from students, families and industry partners to evaluate the effectiveness of maritime outreach and pathway programming, with particular attention to barriers and opportunities for underserved communities.

Schedule

Activity

Highline Public School vote	May 20, 2026
Port Commission vote	May 26, 2026
ILA Amendment execution	By June 20, 2026
Progress report	Dec 31, 2026
Expiration (unless extended)	By June 19, 2027

ALTERNATIVES AND IMPLICATIONS CONSIDERED

Given this funding was directed to a particular entity by Commission, the only alternative proposed is to enter into a new ILA instead of amending the current agreement.

Pros:

- (1) Potentially provides additional opportunity to re-imagine the partnership

Cons:

- (1) Long-standing existing relationship and scope of work that was revisited based on scope requested by commission
- (2) Reduced funding in 2026 does not warrant a whole new agreement
- (3) More time consuming to develop a full ILA instead of amendment

This is the recommended alternative.

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FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The total estimated services will not exceed \$100,000, as allocated in the 2026 budget to be paid during the 2026 calendar year using tax levy dollars.

ATTACHMENTS TO THIS REQUEST

- (1) First Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement Regarding Partnership and Cooperation between Highline Public Schools and the Port of Seattle
- (2) Presentation

PREVIOUS COMMISSION ACTIONS OR BRIEFINGS

May 14, 2024 - The Commission authorized an Interlocal Agreement with Highline Public Schools, Maritime High School

March 2022 - The Commission authorized an Interlocal Agreement with Highline Public Schools, Maritime High School

April 2021 – The Commission authorized an Interlocal Agreement with Highline Public Schools, Maritime High School