

# 2019-2020 BIENNIUM WASHINGTON AGENDA

## COLUMBIA RIVER STEAMSHIP OPERATORS' ASSOCIATION

PROUDLY SERVING OCEAN SHIPPING INTERESTS CALLING IN THE OREGON AND SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON AREAS SINCE 1922



### GRAIN OF THOUGHT



COLUMBIA RIVER TRADE CORRIDOR IS THE NATION'S TOP WHEAT EXPORT GATEWAY AND SECOND FOR CORN AND SOYBEAN EXPORTS AND THIRD LARGEST GRAIN EXPORT GATEWAY IN THE WORLD!

### BY THE NUMBERS



ONE PANAMAX GRAIN SHIP IS APPROXIMATELY 225-229 METERS OR THE LENGTH OF TWO FOOTBALL FIELDS! THE VESSEL CAN LOAD 65,000 METRIC TONS IN THE COLUMBIA RIVER AND CARRY 2.4 MILLION BUSHELS OF WHEAT.



OVER 65,000 ACRES OR 100 SQUARE MILES OF LAND WILL NEED TO BE HARVESTED TO FILL THE VESSEL - NEARLY SIX TIMES THE LAND AREA OF OLYMPIA.

## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

### SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF COLUMBIA RIVER PORTS

CRSOA will work to promote the interests of Columbia River ports and their contribution to our regional economy to ensure healthy and successful ports. Recently completed channel deepening of the Columbia River was intended to increase vessel traffic while investments in training and navigational technology by the CRSOA, pilots, and the tug and towboat industry have increased the safety of vessel operations and movements. 1,475 ships called the Columbia River in 2018, well below the recent high of 2,283, recorded in 2000 (Merchants Exchange).

The Columbia River has the capacity for growth. Not only is the river not being utilized to capacity, but the federal navigation channel's designated purpose is commercial marine traffic and transportation (33 CFR §328.3(a)(1); 40 CFR §230.3(s)(1)).

### ENGAGE OUR MARITIME PARTNERS AND STATE LEGISLATORS

The state of Washington is the most trade-dependent state in the nation, with one in every four jobs being port-related (Washington Public Ports Association).

The CRSOA strives to ensure active engagement with our maritime partners and state legislators as well as strong promotion of our maritime industry. Through advocacy, public outreach, and educational programs we will continue to work to influence policy debates, educate our industry, and maintain effective working relationships. We have found success of our COBALT program for over 20 years and engage our partners through myriad programs and events. We will commit to providing opportunities and outreach materials that help tell the story of our world class river system.

### PROMOTE AN EFFICIENT AND COST EFFECTIVE RIVER SYSTEM

Our active river system delivers vital goods and services to the world, contributes to our regional economy, and creates jobs. The Columbia River trade corridor supports 50 million tons of foreign trade at a value of over \$24 billion annually. We will strive to lower costs to operators and promote an efficient and cost effective river system by supporting projects and infrastructure that will help make the Columbia River ports increasingly popular for commercial ships and shippers to come and do business, a purpose we have maintained for decades.

We will continue active participation on working committees and engage our maritime partners to collaborate on projects that promote channel deepening, stern buoys, anchorages, jetty completion and other ancillary waterfront infrastructure. We will expand the scope of the association to engage the industry and strengthen our voice.

The Columbia River Steamship Operators' Association, Inc. (CRSOA), established in 1922, as the Portland Steamship Operators' Association, includes members representing ship owners, operators, agents, launch services, towing, and bunkering, as well as facilities and ports along the Columbia, Willamette, Snake River and Oregon coast river systems.

The Columbia River trade corridor is the lifeblood of our regional economy, supporting 50 million tons of foreign trade at a value of over \$24 billion annually. The Columbia River is the nation's number one wheat export gateway and number two for corn and soybean exports. It is the third largest grain export gateway in the world, as well as the West Coast's leader in dry bulks, mineral bulk, wood exports and auto imports and exports.

The CRSOA's mission is to facilitate trade, provide business leadership, exercise principles of environmental stewardship, serve as an industry focal point, and promote operating policies and practices that are safe, reliable, efficient, and cost-effective.

