

# ACTION PLAN / 2019-2021

## COLUMBIA RIVER STEAMSHIP OPERATORS' ASSOCIATION

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

**MISSION** To facilitate trade, provide business leadership, exercise principals of environmental stewardship, serve as an industry focal point, and promote operating policies and practices that are safe, reliable, efficient, and cost-effective.

### STRATEGIC COMMITMENTS TO THE COLUMBIA RIVER MARITIME INDUSTRY

- EDUCATION
- ADVOCACY
- PARTNERSHIPS



WWW.CRSOA.NET



#### 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). Oregon ports are a key component to our regional economy with one out of every six jobs being tied to ports (Oregon 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.