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## For Immediate Release

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### **Port of South Whidbey Receives \$500,000 to Help Fund Mukilteo Parking Project**

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The Port of South Whidbey (Port) is collaborating with the Tulalip Tribes to create ferry user parking on their land near the New Multimodal Dock facility in Mukilteo, Washington. The parking lot would provide 250 parking stalls within a short walk to the new facility. A recent draft parking study developed by the City of Mukilteo in partnership with Sound Transit, the Port, and Island County indicates that there is a shortage of 518 parking spaces in the Mukilteo Waterfront area.

In January, Port Commissioners Curt Gordon and Jack Ng traveled to Olympia, WA with Tulalip Tribes representatives to meet with Washington State Representatives and Senators. On the House side, Representative Norma Smith was instrumental in securing \$500,000, and on the Senate side the project was championed by Senator Marko Liias. The project also received support from Representative David Hayes and Senator Barbara Bailey. Of this request, \$130,000 is for permitting and site engineering. The balance will be for preliminary site construction. The Port is submitting an application for a Washington State Regional Mobility Grant to fully fund construction of the facility. The goal is to have approximately 100 stalls designated for use for overnight parking for walk-on visitors to Whidbey Island, WA.

The Port would like to thank the Island County Commissioners, Mukilteo Mayor, City of Langley Mayor, and representatives from the Mukilteo City Council and Island Transit for their specific support for this effort. The Port would also like to thank our community for the tremendous amount letters of support we received from our community's organizations, businesses, and individuals, which helped to make this happen.