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For Immediate Release

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Port of South Whidbey Commissioner District Boundary Changes Proposed

Every ten years, after each U.S. Census is completed, port districts must review the boundaries of their Commissioner Districts to ensure equitable geographic representation. The Port of South Whidbey is divided into three geographic regions or districts, one for each board seat. Candidates for Port Commissioner must run for the seat of the commissioner district they live in. By creating three equal commissioner districts, geographic diversity is ensured on the Port Board of Commissioners. Each position is elected by all district voters, so each of the three directors represents the entire district in their commission actions.

In May 2022, the Port District contracted with Sammamish Data Systems to develop a proposal for new commissioner district boundaries based on the latest census data. Since the last realignment of commissioner districts, there has been a shift in population growth. Currently, our commissioner districts vary in population from a low of 5,395 in District 1 to a high of 5,930 in District 3.

The proposed new commissioner district boundaries would balance these populations so that all three districts would have approximately 5,635 residents.

District	Current Population	Population under the proposal
1st	5,395	5,655
2nd	5,580	5,675
3rd	5,930	5,575

A presentation and public hearing on this proposal will be held on August 1, 2022 at the Freeland Library Meeting Room, 5495 Harbor Avenue, Freeland WA 98249 (with virtual access via Zoom Meeting Service) at 4:00 p.m. The Zoom meeting link, current and proposed maps, and legal descriptions are available on the Port District website, www.portofsouthwhidbey.com. The first reading of the proposal is scheduled for the August 1, Public Hearing. The second reading of the proposal and potential adoption of the proposal is scheduled for the August 9, 2022 Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners. The board must adopt new commissioner districts by November 15, 2022.