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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



ANACORTES – The Port of Anacortes held a ribbon cutting ceremony on Tuesday, February 16, 2010 to mark the completion of the “O” Avenue Mitigation Project. Funded through a Job Development Fund Grant from the Community Education Revitalization Board (CERB) of the Washington State Department of Commerce, this \$1.25 million dollar project removed old creosote pilings and rubble from the shoreline, removed a concrete bulkhead, re-graded parts of the beach to create more aquatic area, installed shoreline restoration and protection, and created public access to the beach west of the Port’s main warehouse and events center, known as the Transit Shed. The project also included repaving Railroad Avenue and improvements to “O” Avenue between Railroad and 2nd Street, installation of a view point terrace, enhancements to Lone Tree Park, under-grounding overhead power lines for clearer access to Pier 1, and installation of a gravity sewer to the Transit Shed, replacing the existing pump system.

In addition to the required mitigation elements, the project benefited from the Port’s partnership with the Skagit Marine Resources Committee (MRC), which incorporated Low-Impact Development (LID) features via a \$44,500 grant. MRC grant-sponsored elements include the installation of porous paving, a roof drain storm water collection system with rain gardens, riparian landscaping along the shoreline and interpretive signs.

The “O” Avenue Mitigation Project was identified to meet federal, state, and local permitting requirements and to provide compensation for ecological impacts from the Port’s Project Pier 1 redevelopment. Project Manager for the Port was Marc Estvold of Anacortes. Construction general contractor was IMCO General Construction, Inc. of Bellingham. Others assisting with the project included: Colie Hough-Beck and Dean Koontz, HBB Landscape Architects of Seattle, Dr. John Herzog, GeoEngineers of Seattle, Vladimir Schleps of Coast and Harbor Engineering and Bob Boudinot, of Leonard, Boudinot & Skodje.

At the ceremony, Port Executive Director Bob Hyde praised the contributions and cooperation of all agencies and those involved in bringing this project to fruition, noting it will benefit the community both today and for generations to come.



About the Port of Anacortes

The Port of Anacortes was formed in 1926 to promote economic development for Anacortes and the surrounding area. The Port district is led by a board of five elected commissioners: Keith Rubin, Pat D. Mooney, Ray Niver, Steve Hopley, and Bill Short. Public meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Commission Meeting Room of the Main Port Warehouse, 1st & Commercial Avenue, Anacortes, WA. For more information, visit www.portofanacortes.com or contact Julie Johnson Lindsey, Executive Assistant, jjulie@portofanacortes.com