



## PRESS RELEASE

JUNE 3, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Port of Anacortes receives prestigious award from Washington State Auditor's Office

**ANACORTES, WA** – The [Port of Anacortes](#) has been awarded the State Auditor Stewardship Award (SASA) for exemplary financial leadership and transparency.

The SASA was presented to the Port's commission and staff by Washington State Auditor Pat McCarthy during a [special public meeting](#) on June 3.

"It takes a good administration, it takes a good staff, and it takes a good Board of Commissioners to do the good work that you've done," said McCarthy. We don't give...stewardship awards very much. We will give them for exemplary work."

"This award recognizes decades of hard work to effectively and transparently manage public assets—from invoicing and information security to the condition of our docks and buildings—for the good of our Port, community, and state," said Executive Director Dan Worra. "I couldn't be prouder of our staff and their continued commitment to excellence."

The Port of Anacortes was nominated by its audit team based on the Port's:

- More than 20 years of clean annual audits
- Reputation as an industry leader in port financial stewardship
- Transparency during the audit process
- Technology leadership as the first public audit to be completed 100% virtually by the Bellingham State Auditor's Office
- Consistent application of best practices and audit recommendations to Port policies and procedures

"We have a culture among our staff of taking pride in the proper handling of Port resources and accurate reporting of financial position," said Jill Brownfield, Port Director of Finance and Administration. "Obtaining these results, especially throughout the challenges of the pandemic, wouldn't have been possible without strong leadership in our executive team and the commitment to fiscal responsibility by all Port staff."

#### About the Port of Anacortes 2020 audits

The Port of Anacortes received clean financial and accountability audits for calendar year 2020. On June 1, 2021, the Washington State Auditor's Office released the Port's official audit reports, marking over two decades of consecutive clean audits.

Representatives from the Washington State Auditor's Office completed audit fieldwork remotely in April 2021 to review financial documents from the period January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020. The scope of the audit focused on review of the financial statements and accountability in four primary areas: accounts receivable process, information technology security, financial condition, and Open Public Meetings Act

compliance.

The [Washington State Auditor's Office](#) performs audits of state and local governments to promote accountability, integrity, and openness in government. To view the audit reports for the Port, visit: <https://www.portofanacortes.com/archive/port-earns-clean-2020-audit/>

For more information, contact Jill Brownfield, Director of Finance and Administration, at (360) 299-1807 or [jill.brownfield@portofanacortes.com](mailto:jill.brownfield@portofanacortes.com).

##

*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: Bonnie Bowers, Ken Goodwin, Jon Petrich, Kathy Pittis and Joe Verdoes. Public meetings are held the first and third Thursdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Commission Meeting Room of the Port Transit Shed, 100 Commercial Avenue, Anacortes, WA. For more information, visit [www.portofanacortes.com](http://www.portofanacortes.com)*