

**MOTION 2020-07:
A MOTION OF THE PORT OF SEATTLE COMMISSION**

To provide immediate relief and support to Port employees
and Port tenants and concessionaires.

**AMENDED AND ADOPTED
APRIL 1, 2020**

INTRODUCTION

The Port of Seattle and its employees, tenants and concessionaires face extraordinary challenges from the global pandemic caused by COVID 19. Every aspect of Port operations – including Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, the marine cargo terminals, cruise terminals, and fishing marinas – have been impacted. These facilities are assets of statewide significance, and the continued operation of these facilities are critical to the state’s economy.

The Port of Seattle has an essential role to play during this difficult time by providing limited, short-term relief to help maintain continuity of Port-affiliated businesses. In particular, prioritizing the health and economic well-being of the Port’s tenants, concessionaires and their employees returns a public benefit, facilitating continued services necessary to support the Port’s functions and furthering the Port’s financial interests and the region’s economic recovery.

TEXT OF THE MOTION

The Commission directs the Executive Director to take steps to implement economic relief during the COVID-19 crisis using the following guidance:

Port Employees

The health, safety and well-being of employees is the Port’s highest priority. The Commission hereby provides the following direction for the Executive Director’s actions to review and enact workplace policies that enhance the ability of employees to care for themselves and their families while continuing to provide the work essential to Port operations. Priority shall be given to maintaining employment and benefits to the greatest extent possible.

To further the Executive Director’s efforts to support employees, the Commission hereby expands the Executive Director’s authority through June 30, 2020 to expend up to \$1,000,000 without Commission approval, as needed, to advance these efforts.

Port Tenants and Concessionaires

The Commission hereby supports the Executive Director’s ongoing efforts to evaluate the impacts of the COVID-19 epidemic on the Port, and authorizes the Executive Director to implement immediate financial relief to Port tenants and concessionaires in a manner that is

legally consistent with advancing the Port's financial interests and thereby creating ongoing benefit to the resident of King County.

The Port depends on these tenants and concessionaires to provide services to Port customers and generate revenue for Port operations. Maintaining its base of tenants and concessionaires is critical to the Ports financial strategy to recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and also to the tens of thousands of workers whose livelihood are dependent on Port operations.

Just as important to supporting the tenants themselves is supporting their employees. The economic success of the airport and its concessionaires post-COVID-19 is inexorably tied to the ability of these businesses to bring back their employees once customer demand returns. To ensure that these employees are available, healthy and open to returning, the best way to support them during the immediate crisis is providing continuing payments and/or benefits. The Commission is grateful to the large majority of its concessionaires who are already doing so, and urges these efforts to continue; the provision of economic relief is a key way for the Port to facilitate the provision of that support.

Port-initiated short-term economic relief shall complement the evolving state and federal assistance programs and prioritize Port tenants and concessionaires that:

- Are directly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the restrictions that have been implemented to address it;
- Can reasonably commit to continued operations within current public health directives or can reasonably commit to resuming full operations as demand recovers; or
- Provide services essential to the Port operations.

Protection of Tenants and Residents:

The Commission hereby directs the Executive Director that tenants and residents at Port of Seattle facilities shall not be evicted for inability to pay rent through June 30, 2020, including live-aboard residents and other moorage customers, and authorizes the Executive Director to provide financial relief to these residents and customers consistent with this motion.

Assistance in finding relief from other entities:

The Port will develop an outreach program for its tenants, their employees, and port employees, to facilitate their ability to access local, state and federal relief resources. This program will be established as soon as possible, following additional clarity provided by the agencies as to the eligibility and application of relief programs.

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE MOTION

The purpose of this motion is to authorize the Executive Director, within these guidelines, to provide immediate relief to Port tenants. These efforts shall also follow the Port's principles of supporting regional economic vitality, environmental stewardship, equity and inclusion. In addition to any short-term relief that is explicitly directed by the Port Commission, the

Executive Director is authorized to implement other short-term relief that falls within the criteria of this motion.