

**ORDER 2021-02:
AN ORDER OF THE PORT OF SEATTLE COMMISSION**

To require the Executive Director to continue the indefinite postponement of the expenditure of funds for the design or construction of a cruise terminal on Terminal 46 until a reassessment of the industry is delivered to Commission, and other requirements before construction is authorized.

**ADOPTED
JANUARY 12, 2021**

INTRODUCTION

Cruise operations at the Port of Seattle provide significant benefits to the local economy, reaching industries far beyond the waterfront. Ships homeported in Seattle are provisioned by local providers and strengthen our network of maritime and industrial businesses. With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, cruise operations around the world came to a halt. Though there is recent optimism with the lifting of the Center for Disease Control ban on cruises in U.S. waters, the future is not certain.

The implementation of stringent new safety measures and the upcoming delivery of multiple COVID-19 vaccines provide a path forward. However, it is unclear when the industry will recover and how customers will react to the resumption of cruise, and there is no certainty of a recovery or return to a “normal” cruise season in 2021. It is expected the existing Port of Seattle cruise terminals are sufficient to handle the anticipated recovery of cruise on our waterfront for the near future.

The Port is committed to maintaining Terminal 46 to support maritime use. The Port of Seattle Commission supports the Executive Director’s initial postponement in mid-2020 of investment on the new cruise terminal proposed on the 29 acres of Terminal 46 that are managed by the Port of Seattle under an Interlocal Agreement with the Northwest Seaport Alliance. This Order directs the Executive Director to continue the indefinite postponement of all design and capital spending on a proposed new cruise terminal, unless otherwise directed by the Commission, and to work with the Northwest Seaport Alliance to explore with maximum flexibility maritime uses for Terminal 46.

TEXT OF THE ORDER

The Commission hereby directs the Executive Director to continue the indefinite postponement of design and capital investment on a proposed new cruise terminal on the 29 acres of Terminal 46 that are managed by the Port of Seattle under an Interlocal Agreement with the Northwest Seaport Alliance. The Executive Director shall also demonstrate clear coordination with the Northwest Seaport Alliance to provide maximum flexibility on future uses for Terminal 46.

Prior to Commission authorization of design of a new cruise terminal, staff shall provide the Commission with an updated assessment of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the cruise industry and a reevaluation of the proposed project. Additionally, prior to Commission authorization of construction of a new cruise terminal, staff shall provide to Commission an assessment that includes, at a minimum, project cost estimates, return on investment and projected market demand.