

Press Release

Washougal Youth Appointed to Waterfront Advisory Committee

Citizens Group Progresses on Recommendations for Waterfront

January 9, 2007 – With an eye towards the vision of future generations, the Port of Camas-Washougal has appointed Washougal High School student Ashley Eckman to the Waterfront Advisory Committee (WAC). The WAC, which has held monthly work sessions since October 2006, and is gearing up for more frequent meetings in the new year, is tasked with providing recommendations to the Port Commission and City of Washougal on suggested uses for the waterfront along the Columbia River as part of the proposed RiverWalk On The Columbia development.

“My interests in serving on the committee include reserving an area for parks and open spaces, and to create something that both adults and kids alike will enjoy,” stated Eckman. “I hope that my presence on the committee will serve as a voice for a younger generation -- many who potentially will use these facilities once they are built for years to come.” *(See full press release.)*

Eckman’s vision for the waterfront is one that is family-friendly, attracts visitors and is a center for local commerce. She sees a project tailored to a diverse audience, making the waterfront something people of the Camas-Washougal can be proud of.

A senior at Washougal High School, Eckman is student body vice-president, yearbook editor, and serves as a S*T*A*R* Mentor to incoming freshman. She is a varsity cheerleader and is active in the school's drama department. Eckman plans to attend college after graduation and is considering majoring in marketing, advertising, or possibly education. She has lived in Washougal for the last 11 years.

Members of the WAC, selected by the Port Commission, represent a broad-based cross-section of the community, and are tasked with recommending “the wisest and best long-term use of waterfront resources for the maximum public benefit.” The Committee will present recommendations to the Port Commission for a blueprint of the mixed use development that will encompass parks and open spaces, retail, hotels, residential, business and some light industrial.