



# PORT OF KLICKITAT

For Immediate Release

July 3, 2013

## Marina Way Reopens For 4th

**Bingen, Washington** – The Port of Klickitat will open the eastern segment of Marina Way in time for the Independence Day holiday, restoring direct access to Marina Park and the boat ramp to Bingen Harbor. This segment of road was part of the Port's Bingen Point Infrastructure Improvement project launched in 2012 and scheduled for completion in early November of that year. However, the project suffered weather delays that ultimately forced its suspension until early May. Construction was completed by Nutter Corp. on May 31, 2013, at a total project cost of just over \$875,000.

“The improvements made to Marina Way and the extension of Bingen Point Way continue the transformation of Bingen Point into a shovel-ready business park consistent with the vision laid out by the Commission in 2009,” said Marc Thornsbery, the Port's Executive Director. “They also set the stage for the future construction of other elements. Each piece of the puzzle we put in place moves us closer to completing the Commission's vision of a fully developed, vibrant industrial park.”

While the primary objective of the project was the extension of infrastructure to support development (including the proposed Insitu facility) on nearly eleven acres of Port property, a secondary



benefit is the segment of Marina Way now being opened. Visitors to Marina Park that remember the old entrance less as a road than as a series of patches and potholes should be delighted with the straight, smooth pavement that forms the new east end of Marina Way.

Though the construction of pedestrian facilities was not part of the project, visitors on foot weren't entirely ignored.

### At A Glance...

**Who:**.....Port of Klickitat

**What:**.....Marina Way Reopens

**When:**.....July 3, 2013

**Where:**.....Bingen Point

**Quick Facts:**....New segment of Marina Way to open by July 4th.

Walking trail south and east of Bingen Lake already reopened.

2012 BP Infrastructure Improvement project last to be funded under expired IDD levy.

*For more information, please contact:*

**Marc Thornsbery, Executive Director ■ 509-493-1655 ■ [mthornsbery@portofklickitat.com](mailto:mthornsbery@portofklickitat.com)**

Areas were set aside, and sub-grade established, for the future construction of a paved multi-use path along the south side of Marina Way. “Many of the visitors to Marina Park come on foot and we want to make sure we can add facilities for them in the future,” added Thornsby. “In the meantime, we want to remind drivers that the speed limit on Marina Way is 35mph until it reaches the park at which point it drops to 15mph.”

Similar preparations were made along the north side of Bingen Point Way including a ramp to a future boardwalk across the southeast corner of the Bingen Lake wetland. At present, the trail running along the south side of Bingen Lake has been reopened from the Maple Street turn-around east to the new end of Bingen Point Way at which point pedestrians may continue east along the north side of the road before turning north onto the path bordering the wetland.

The Bingen Point Infrastructure Improvement project was the last one funded under the Industrial Development District levy that expired at the end of 2012. “The Commission now faces the task of adjusting its timetable for extending Bingen Point Way east to the point and completing the extension of Bingen Point Way west to Maple Street,” said Port Commissioner Jim Herman. We had envisioned constructing these by the end of 2017, but with construction costs on the up-swing and the cut in tax revenue, that is now unlikely. In addition, the planned improvements to the Marina Park parking lot approved earlier this year will likely be shelved for the time being.”

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#### **About the Port of Klickitat**

Economic development, transportation, and marine-based recreation are key functions of the Port of Klickitat. These are achieved through leasing industrial-zoned property, developing and renting industrial and commercial facilities, developing and maintaining rail spurs and dock facilities, assisting companies with an interest in locating in Klickitat County, creating and managing marine-based recreational facilities, and working closely with various partner organizations and agencies.

The Port of Klickitat is located in Klickitat County, Washington and was created in 1944. It is one of several port authorities located in the mid-Columbia region. It owns two industrial parks and several buildings, leases industrial property and space, operates a barge dock, and holds property set aside for a park and marina. Transportation access is provided via rail, river barge, highways 14, 35, and 197, and Interstate 84. More information can be found on the Port's web site at [www.portofklickitat.com](http://www.portofklickitat.com).

*For more information, please contact:*

**Marc Thornsby, Executive Director ■ 509-493-1655 ■ [mthornsby@portofklickitat.com](mailto:mthornsby@portofklickitat.com)**