

RESOLUTION NO. 1531

A RESOLUTION of the Port Commission of the Port of Pasco acknowledging the State Governor's proclaimed State of Emergency throughout Washington State in response to COVID-19, and delegating certain additional authority to the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, for a defined term, relating to Tenant Rent Deferrals

WHEREAS, the Port Commission of the Port of Pasco has in the past adopted policy directives delegating administrative authority to the Executive Director and Department Heads for the purpose of expeditious administration of the Port; and

WHEREAS, the Port Commission has from time to time found it necessary to amend and revise such directives due to changes in law and/or operations of the Port; and

WHEREAS, the Port Commission now deems it advisable to delegate certain additional responsibilities and authority to the Port Executive Director, as herein described, and based on the emergency circumstances described herein; and

WHEREAS, novel Coronavirus COVID-19, a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, is caused by a new strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and has proven it can easily spread from person to person; and,

WHEREAS, the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has identified a public health threat posed by COVID-19 both globally and within the United States, including within Washington State; and,

WHEREAS, there are documented cases of COVID-19, including deaths caused thereby, within Washington State; and,

WHEREAS, the Washington State Department of Health has confirmed the person-to-person spread of COVID-19 and is finding an increasing risk of exposure and infection to the general public due to its potential to spread quickly; and,

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency for COVID-19 on January 31, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, the Washington State Governor proclaimed a public health emergency for COVID-19 on February 29, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, the President of the United States declared public national emergency relating to COVID-19 on March 13, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, there is an emergency public health condition present which impacts the operations of the Port and necessitates this Resolution; and,

WHEREAS, preserving and strengthening the Port's financial sustainability and operations will play a critical role in the economic recovery and return to growth in the Port district, and therefore fosters the Port's mission of economic development within the Port district; and,

WHEREAS, the Port depends on its tenants to provide services to Port constituents and generate revenue for Port operations, and maintaining its base of tenants is critical to the Port's strategy to navigate the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic; and,


WHEREAS, a form of tenant rent relief in the form of rent deferrals may assist tenants of the Port of Pasco in maintaining their company's viability during these times of distressed economic conditions;


NOW, THEREFORE, BASED UPON THE ABOVE FINDINGS, BE IT RESOLVED by the Port of Pasco Commission, as follows:


1. Delegation of Authority Re: Rent Deferrals. The Commission authorizes the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR or his designee, to oversee, administer and execute the Port of Pasco COVID-19 Rent Deferral Program, attached hereto, according to its terms and conditions, including execution of lease amendments permitted by the Program, and without further need of Commission action, provided however that the Commission shall be provided a list of all such approved lease amendments entered into as part of the Program at the next regularly scheduled Commission meeting.
2. Sunset. This Resolution will remain in effect until June 30, 2020, unless earlier terminated or extended by this Port of Pasco Commission.

ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of the Port of Pasco on this 8th day of April, 2020, and duly authenticated in open session by the signatures of the Commissioners voting in favor thereof.

PORT OF PASCO COMMISSION


Jim Klindworth, President


Vicki Gordon, Vice-President


Jean Ryckman, Secretary