

LWV OF TACOMA-PIERCE COUNTY

Position on

PORT

The League of Women Voters of Tacoma-Pierce County supports public port districts with emphasis on public accountability, coordinated planning, and environmental values. Specifically, we believe there should be:

1. Cooperation and coordinated comprehensive planning with regional, state, or international agencies to facilitate orderly planning and public accountability.
2. Intergovernmental cooperation within Pierce County to resolve local issues.
3. The Port of Tacoma Commissioners should continue to find ways to expand public awareness by improving communication both from the Port to the public and the public to the Port, and to protect citizens' right to know by:
 - holding open meetings
 - adopting written rules and procedures for conducting their meetings
 - providing adequate notice of proposed actions
 - making public records easily accessible.

The public has the right to expect transparency and consistency.

4. As part of improving communication and increasing responsiveness, Port Commissioners should hold public hearings before making planning decisions and should formally adopt planning documents.
5. The goals of the Port of Tacoma should include partnerships with the public for the public good. Attention should be paid to community needs, including recreation and the environment.

Amended and adopted, May 2006