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### Defining 'Sustainability'

- Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the needs of future generations (Bruntland Commission, 1987)
- [A business] that creates profit for its shareholders while protecting the environment and improving the lives of those with whom it interacts (Savitz, 2006)



#### Characteristics of a Sustainable Port



- Steward of natural resources (wildlife, air, water, soil)
- Sound finances (capital, investment, bond rating)
- Socially responsible (community, customers, employees, electeds)

# Sustainability = Triple Bottom Line



## **Green Port Policy**

- Protect the community from harmful effects of port operations
- Distinguish Port as leader in environmental stewardship and compliance
- Promote sustainability
- Employ best available technology to minimize environmental impacts
- Engage and educate the community



## Strategic Benefits of Sustainability



- Builds community and political support; aids project approvals
- Keeps Port ahead of regulations, requirements
- Enables terminal development and modernization; business growth

# **Environmental Responsibility**



- Green leases
- Soil, sediment, groundwater cleanup
- Biological inventories
- Clean Air Action Plan
- Shore-side electricity
- "Green" purchasing
- Storm water management
- Wetlands restoration
- Solar projects
- Green fleet

# **Financial Responsibility**

- Marine terminal upgrades
- Jobs
- Incentives (Green Flag)
- Use of state and federal funds for infrastructure
- Recycling
- Energy conservation
- LEED buildings



# **Community Responsibility**



- Job creation
- Air quality improvement
- Traffic management
- Public outreach/education
- Communication
- Transparency
- Small business inclusion
- Urban forest

### Sustainable Design, Construction, Operation



- Good for business
  - LEED certification
  - Conservation of water, energy, etc.
  - Sustainable materials
  - Native landscaping
  - Green purchasing
  - Recycling
- Translates to bottom line

### **Challenges and Choices**



- Return on investment (revenue vs. nonrevenue)
- Today's world reductions/loss of
  federal, state and local
  funding
- Use of fees
- Staying competitive
- Environmental responsibility

#### Competitive Consequences



Port of Seattle Where a sustainable world is headed

\$0

**Prince** 

Rupert

#### Questions to Ponder......

- Level playing field
- National or international requirements for environmental programs
- Capital investment for non-revenue producing roadway or bridge projects
- "Doing the right thing" with environmental investments amid greater economic and competitive pressures

# Sustainability Requires Triple Bottom Line

