

For Immediate Release • February 18, 2016 • No. 13

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Maryhelen Kincaid Recognized with Port of Portland Compass Award

Community volunteer Maryhelen Kincaid was named the Port of Portland's 2015 Compass Award recipient today at the Port's annual "Gateway to the Globe" meeting.

Kincaid has worked with the Port as an engaged citizen for over 12 years, and devoted more than 35 years to citizen involvement. She served on the Portland International Airport Citizen Noise Advisory Committee as a member and committee chair for nine years, the Regional Air Cargo Feeder Ad Hoc Committee, the PDX Airport Futures Planning Advisory Group, and currently serves on the PDX Community Advisory Committee.

In her tenure as a community volunteer, she has advised the Port on many important topics, including aircraft noise, land use and future development.



"Maryhelen is a well-known and respected name in the Portland community and participates in planning, land use and community engagement processes throughout the city," said Port Commission President Jim Carter. "She is an exceptional leader with a strong commitment to authentic community dialogue, balanced perspective and fairness. Her vision and practical insight has helped the Port of Portland collaborate with the community on numerous projects, and her commitment to volunteer service is an inspiration to us all."

Instituted in 2006, the Compass Award recognizes the contributions of community individuals and entities that have demonstrated exceptional support for the Port. Compass Award recipients serve as civic and/or corporate role models through their outstanding contributions to the Port and the communities it serves. Recipients can be recognized for overall support of the Port's strategic mission or any of the Port's individual business units including aviation, marine, properties, and environmental affairs.

More than 550 business leaders, elected officials and community stakeholders attended this year's Gateway to the Globe event which celebrated the Port's 125th anniversary.

More About Maryhelen

A native Oregonian, Maryhelen experienced some interesting jobs over the years. Growing up, she retrieved footballs for Coach Vince Lombardi at the Green Bay Packers spring training camp. She was one of the first female lifeguards at Santa Monica Pier, and taught youngsters to swim in Livermore, Calif., including a boy, who would become Major League Baseball Pitcher Randy Johnson. Maryhelen was the first woman to serve as a meter reader for the City of Alameda, Calif., and was a gate agent and baggage handler for Pacific Southwest Airlines in San Diego. She spent 15 years working in aging services in California and Portland, and retired in 2011 after 22 years with AAA Oregon/Idaho working in travel services, accounting and project management.

Maryhelen also currently serves on committees including the Portland Citywide Land Use Group, the Levee Ready Columbia Committee, the Development Review Advisory Committee, as chair; the City of Portland Public Works Appeal Panel, and the City of Portland Public Involvement Advisory Council. She is the former chair and land use chair of the East Columbia Neighborhood, and served on a Noise Task Force appointed by Portland City Commissioner Amanda Fritz to address construction noise. Maryhelen is also currently involved with restoration and enhancement projects for the Columbia Children's Arboretum and the Blue Heron Wetlands in East Columbia neighborhood, and is a member of the North Portland Parks Group.

Maryhelen shares her life with her husband Jim, and cat Penny. She enjoys traveling, gardening and learning new things like playing the ukulele and welding, and loves anything purple.

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