The Port of Portland’s Commitment to Shared Prosperity in our Region

WHAT IS SHARED PROSPERITY?

The Port of Portland’s job is to enhance the region’s economy and quality of life. When we look at our history, we’ve created prosperity, but it’s not been shared by everyone. As the pandemic and economic recovery continue to reveal the economic disparities in our communities, this work is more important than ever.

Shared prosperity is the vision we’re driving towards – a region where prosperity is shared by all. And we’re committed to partnering with our community to get there: using our resources to reduce barriers and create opportunities for Black, Indigenous, people of color, low-income workers and people with disabilities.

Shared prosperity is using the Port’s resources to enable more people to share and drive the prosperity of our region. We’re using our contracts and people, and our airports, marine terminals and industrial development tools, to create jobs and build wealth for communities who should have always shared in the prosperity of our region.

Most importantly, we’re looking to partner with our community to make even bigger impact. Before we do things, we’re listening to community leaders about what’s most effective. We’re looking to partner with business, nonprofits, community and government groups to make our resources and actions go even further.

HOW IS THE PORT APPROACHING THIS WORK?

This isn’t a new mission – we’ve been advancing our diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) goals since 2018. It’s now about thinking differently and drawing the connections to our daily work.

The Port is starting with six specific actions in 2021 to design and test big changes – but our focus on shared prosperity continues long after the calendar year ends. This work is everyone’s job at the Port. This means using our workforce, business programs and services to create opportunities and reduce barriers in our community.
SHARED PROSPERITY IS ABOUT CREATING JOBS AND BUILDING WEALTH:

- We’re using our $6.5 billion in economic impact a year to create jobs, attract businesses committed to quality jobs and partner with industries that build skills and training.

- Our new equitable development team is focused on building partnerships that spark business growth and ownership in communities of color.

- We’re assessing how our Port assets – marine terminals, industrial land and airports – can best contribute to prosperity in our region.

WE’RE USING CONTRACTING DOLLARS TO CREATE MORE OPPORTUNITY

- We’re making it easier for small and minority-owned businesses to contract with the Port, from becoming a concessionaire at the airport to working on our construction programs.

- We’re holding companies we contract with to high standards of equity to make sure we create good jobs for the workers and families who need them.

- We’re growing our award-winning Mentor Protégé Program to help more small businesses build skills on Port projects.

“This is a shift to think about how to create the kind of community we want, instead of the kind of community we used to have.”

Curtis Robinhold
Executive Director, Port of Portland

THERE ARE THREE NON-NEGOTIABLE PRINCIPLES OF SHARED PROSPERITY:

- Maximize benefits to Black, Indigenous, people of color, low-income workers, and people with disabilities.

- Identify new opportunities for engagement with our community.

- Create a financially sustainable path for the Port.