



Port of Tacoma position

The Port is seeking \$3.15 million in capital budget Remedial Action Grant funding for two remediation projects under agreed orders initiated by the state.

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The Issue

The Port of Tacoma has a long history of partnering with stakeholders to clean up and improve the environmental conditions of Commencement Bay. Since 1987, the Port has managed \$297 million worth of environmental investments.

An important tool in this effort are Remedial Action Grants (RAGs) funded by the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) capital account used to clean up contaminated properties in partnership with local governments. The account is funded by a dedicated tax on toxics in the state.

The Port of Tacoma supports the Department of Ecology's requested RAG funding in the 2021-23 capital budget for two projects. These projects prioritize and fund clean-up actions on port property likely to provide for economic development, have the greatest environmental benefit and support fish runs important to Southern Resident orca recovery.

According to a Department of Ecology study, every dollar spent on remediation results in \$7 in long-term payrolls, \$32 in business revenue and \$6 in tax revenue as cleaned-up properties are put into productive use.

PROJECT	FUNDING REQUESTED
Alexander Avenue Tank Farm	\$1.15 million
Arkema Manufacturing	\$2.00 million
TOTAL	\$3.15 million

Alexander Avenue Tank Farm

This former oil storage site that served the U.S. Navy shipyards previously located on the Tideflats is contaminated with benzene and other petroleum products.

Weathered petroleum products are migrating to both the Hylebos and Blair waterways, both of which are located at the end of salmon bearing streams (the Hylebos and Wapato creeks, respectively). The \$1.15 million requested by the port would result in a bioremediation solution that should complete the remediation project.

This property will provide support services for the TOTE Marine Terminal. TOTE handles domestic marine cargo shipped to and from the state of Alaska. That marine cargo supports an estimated 664 direct jobs generating \$67 million in labor income per year.

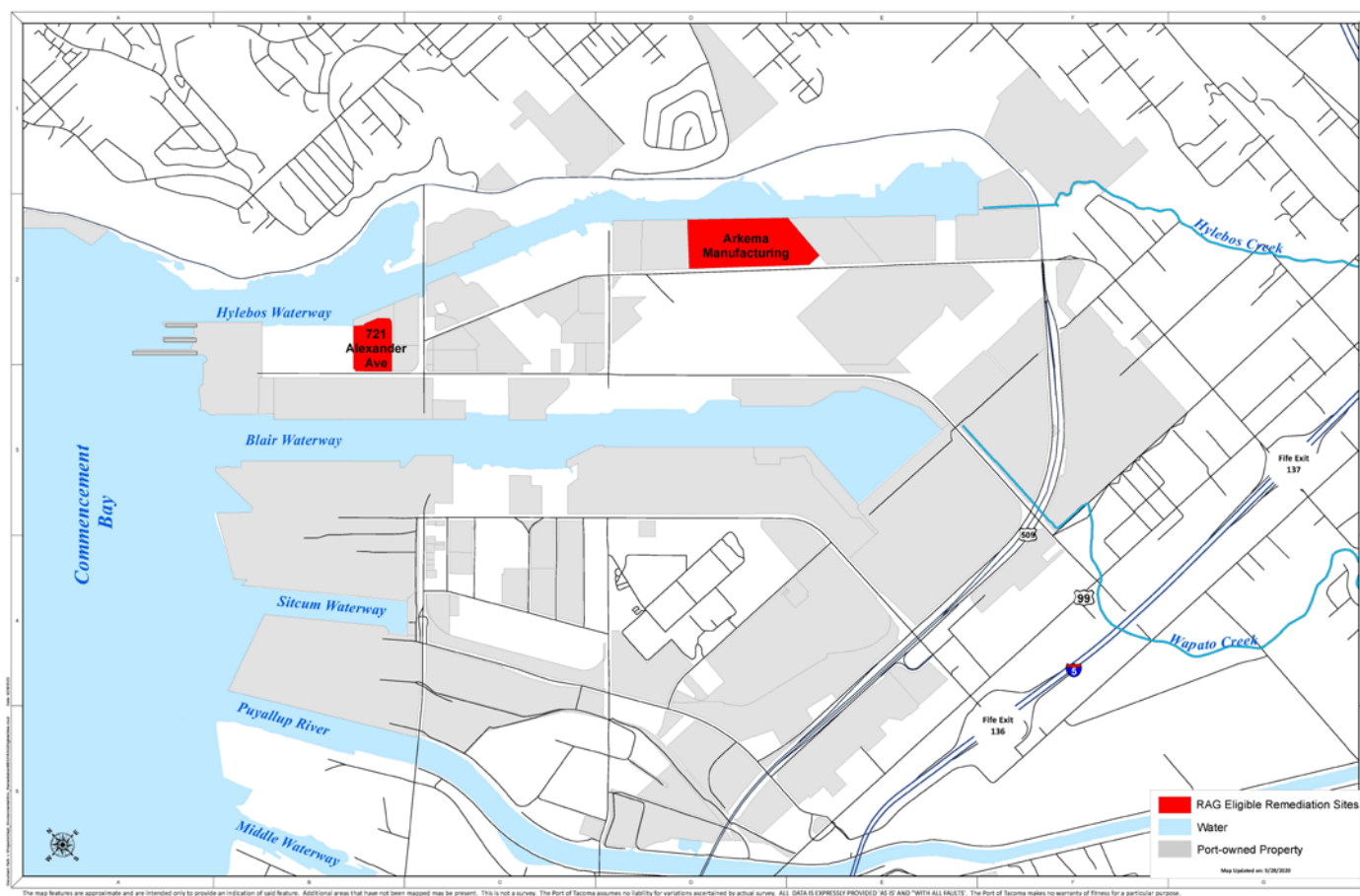
Arkema Manufacturing

The 43-acre property was the site of an Arkema chemical facility that operated from 1928 to 1997. Although 90 percent of the arsenic was cleaned up by the company at a cost of about \$43 million, the site remains too contaminated to redevelop without additional remediation. Arsenic in the groundwater also is migrating towards the Hylebos Waterway, located at the mouth of the salmon-bearing Hylebos Creek.

The \$2 million requested from the state would leverage \$2 million in port funds and an expected \$7 million in federal Environmental Protection Agency funds. This would allow for the removal of Penite pits and construction of a shoreline and surface caps. Because of the complexity of this project, further work—and funding—will likely be needed in future biennia.

While redevelopment plans have yet be decided, the property's location could allow for the development of marine terminal for handling barge traffic that could support up to 660 jobs.

Port of Tacoma Remediation Projects



Project supporters

