

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN ISLAND COUNTY, SOUTH WHIDBEY PARKS AND RECREATION DISTRICT, CITY OF LANGLEY AND PORT DISTRICT OF SOUTH WHIDBEY ISLAND FOR MUTUAL ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT FOR PARKS AND PARK FACILITIES WITHIN EACH JURISDICTION**

This memorandum of understanding is entered into by and between the following parties and is effective upon the last date set forth below:

- **Island County**, and specifically Island County Parks Department (ICP), which administers parks, athletic facilities, boat launches, campground, and conservation areas on Whidbey and Camano Islands;
- **South Whidbey Parks and Recreation District (SWPRD)**, which administer parks, athletic facilities, and conservation areas on South Whidbey Island;
- **City of Langley (City)**, which administers parks and conservation areas within its city limits; and
- **Port District of South Whidbey Island (Port)**, which, among other duties not related to this agreement, administers boating facilities to include boat launches, the South Whidbey Harbor at Langley, and other related facilities.
- Island County, South Whidbey Parks and Recreation District, City of Langley, and the Port District of South Whidbey Island are collectively referred to as the "Partners."

**WITNESSETH:**

Whereas, no comprehensive agreement currently exists between the Partners, although the Partners have separately entered into the following agreements:

- ICP and the Port currently have maintenance agreements related to Dave Mackie Park, Freeland Park and Mutiny Bay boat launches that have been in effect for 25 years;
- ICP and SWPRD currently have a verbal mutual aid agreement related to their facilities that has been in effect since 1997; and
- the Port and the City have an Inter-local Agreement for the South Whidbey Harbor at Langley; and

Whereas, it has proven challenging over the years for all the Partners to provide high quality, sustainable infrastructure and maintenance to public recreational facilities, especially in the light of the recent economic downturn and great recession; and

Whereas, there is ever increasing uncertainty of funding recreational properties and the recent recession raised awareness of that vulnerability; and

Whereas, the Partners have shared concerns and goals, including but not limited to the following: improved public understanding of their recreational facilities, better communication among the Partners, and the public; defining or redefining jurisdictions, so as to improve efficiency of resources, regarding budget, staffing, improvement, and maintenance of facilities, and the acquisition of new parks, conservation areas, or facilities; and

Whereas, the Partners have a shared interest in collaborating to seek funding solutions, extending mutual assistance to each Partner, and developing a strategic plan including all of the Partners so recreational properties can continue to be acquired, maintained, and used by the public; and

Whereas, the Partners believe that entering into this Memorandum of Understanding will help achieve these goals and interests since there is historic evidence to show that past efforts have been successful where collaboration has taken place; and

Whereas each party agrees to be responsible and assume liability for its own wrongful and /or negligent acts or omissions related to its performance of any aspect of this Memorandum of Understanding or those of their officials, officers, agents, or employees to the fullest extent required by law and further agrees to save indemnify, defend, and hold the other party(s) to this Memorandum of Understanding harmless from any such liability. It is further provided that no liability shall attach to the County by reason of entering into this Memorandum of Understanding except as expressly provided herein.

**Now, therefore, it is hereby agreed by and between the Partners as follows:**

1. The Partner service area includes the area in Washington State, Island County, Whidbey Island, with the effective service area concurrent with the Port and SWPRD boundaries.
2. The Partners agree to provide mutual assistance to one another in the form of expertise and resources, as time and budgets will allow.
3. The Partners will contribute to an ongoing effort to better define the roles and responsibilities of each partner.
4. The Partners are committed to work together to achieve our mutual goals
5. ICP and SWPRD will be the lead agencies in the planning and development, and implementation of an overall strategic plan. The overall strategic plan will be consistent with the Island County Comprehensive Plan with the goal of eventually incorporating the final plan into the Island County Comprehensive Plan. All Partners agree to contribute their expertise and resources to the efforts.
6. Upon mutual agreement of all parties, other Partners may be added.
7. This agreement runs until it is terminated by mutual written agreement of the Partners
8. A partner may opt out of this agreement without terminating this agreement as it relates to the other Partners.
9. At the request of any Party, implementing specific efforts described in this Memorandum of Understanding that require significant resources or other commitment(s) of Parties shall be done pursuant to a mutually negotiated interlocal agreement.

**PORT DISTRICT OF SOUTH WHIDBEY ISLAND**

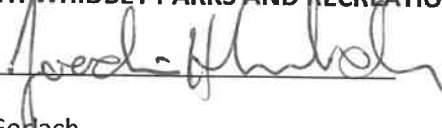
By 

Curt Gordon

President, Port District of South Whidbey Island

Date 3/5/2015

**SOUTH WHIDBEY PARKS AND RECREATION DISTRICT**

By 

Joel Gedach

Chair, South Whidbey Parks and Recreation District

Date 2/18/15

**CITY OF LANGLEY**

By 

Fred McCarthy

Mayor, City of Langley

Date 3-3-15

**ISLAND COUNTY**

**Board of County Commissioners**

**Island County, Washington**

By 

Helen Price Johnson, Chair

Date 3-17-15