



Maritime Center Fact Sheet



The Port of Tacoma and Tacoma Public Schools are working in partnership to develop a landmark campus on the Tacoma waterfront called the Maritime Center. The Maritime Center will be home to a new Port business office and the Maritime|253 skills center, providing opportunities for high school students across Pierce County to develop skills and education leading to a career in the maritime and industrial trades. The Port's master planning process includes engaging with the community to gather feedback to help envision the future of the site.

Location

The Maritime Center is located on a 20-acre parcel of Port-owned property along the east side of the Foss Waterway, south of the Murray Morgan Bridge (11th Street Bridge) in Tacoma.

Design-Build Team

- TCF Architecture and BNBuilders



Port Business Center

- 60,000 sq. ft. building
- Workspace for approximately 150 Port and NWSA staff
- Port Commission meeting chambers
- Public walkway and waterway access

Maritime 253 | Skills Center

- 30,000 sq. ft. building
- Operated by Tacoma Public Schools
- Up to 300 students per session (two per weekday)
- Workspace for 20 staff
- Career/technical education open to junior/senior-level high school students throughout Pierce County at no cost
- Educational focus areas: skilled & technical trades, transportation & logistics, technology & innovation, and sustainability in the maritime industry

Master Planning

Master planning includes the 20-acre parcel, where the Maritime Center will be located, and a second 5-acre parcel on the opposite side of the Wheeler-Osgood waterway.

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Maritime Center Timeline

- Spring 2027: Port business center opens
- September 2026: Maritime | 253 opens
- April 2025 – December 2026: Port business center construction
- March 2025 – July 2026: Maritime | 253 construction
- January 2025: Ground improvements begin
- January 8, 2025: Groundbreaking event
- October 2024: Environmental (land) Remediation work begins
- May 7, 2024: Public open house #2, Foss Waterway Seaport
- April 2024 - December 2025: Master planning
- April - October 2024: Phase 2 (to 60% design) complete
- March 2024: Phase 1 (to 30% design) complete
- December 2023: Online open house/feedback site open
- November 2023: Public open house #1, Foss Waterway Seaport
- November 2023: Port building programming/ design and site master planning process begins
- August 2023: TCF Architecture/BNBuilders selected as the design-build team for the project
- March 2023: Port and Tacoma Public Schools entered into an Interlocal Agreement to begin the planning process

Community Engagement

- Outreach to community and businesses adjacent to project site
- 30-member Community Advisory Committee
- Public open houses: Nov. 2023 and May 2024
- Groundbreaking event: Jan. 8, 2024

Project Websites

- www.portoftacoma.com/maritimecenter
- www.maritime253.org

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