

City of Port Townsend

MAY 2024 NEWSLETTER

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Mon, May 6:
Regular Business Meeting
General Sewer Plan:
Adoption for Ecology

Mon, May 13:
City Council Workshop Meeting
"All Things Solid Waste" with guests Jeff Co.
Solid Waste and Olympic Disposal

Mon, May 20:
Regular Business Meeting

Meetings are held at 6 p.m.
unless otherwise noticed, and
are subject to change.
Visit cityofpt.us/calendar for updates.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 20 VISION WORKSHOP 45

THE COMP PLAN KICKOFF:
SHAPE PORT TOWNSEND'S FUTURE



THURS MAY 9
6 - 8 PM



- * VISION SWAP
- * FOOD FOR THOUGHT
- * QUICK WALK & TALKS

- * YOUTH ACTIVITIES
- * INTERACTIVE MAPS
- * HOUSING, TRANSPORTATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, IDENTITY

 WWW.PT2045PLANNING.ORG

HOMECOMING AND WHERE WE'RE GOING

A letter from Councilmember Ben Thomas



Every village the world over has a feast or a festival to bring people together. It's a time where lines are blurred, daily

routines are abandoned, and the Star Belly Sneetches celebrate alongside those without. Our festival, for the past 89 years at least, we call "Rhody."

Folks of all stars and stripes line up lawn chairs on the verge to take in a spectacle of the Grand Parade that has scarcely changed since its early days. Marching bands plow the way for princesses on floats and politicians

in convertibles. Community organizations flash all the flair they can muster and maintain for the half-mile crawl through Uptown and Downtown, waving and hailing candy upon scurrying children. It's a bloom of Americana in a town that doesn't see that spirit as often as it once did.

Over the years, our parade and festival evolve to reflect who we are. I miss the more eccentric Rhody traditions of my youth: Bonzo DeLeo's Squat Car, the Road Warriors and the army of bagpipers who would leave the route and pour into the Town Tavern to play for beers. And, of course, there was the carnival, in all its sticky, cotton-candy splendor.

But new traditions continue to flow together with the old. Chautauqua and the Cake Picnic join other eccentricities like Kinetic and the Lawn Chair Precision Drill Team to make new memories for today's children and the child in each of us.

As our festival evolves, so does our village, and our actions today build the village of tomorrow. How much of the past do we preserve, and toward which direction might we wish to change? Our City's Comprehensive Plan is where we envision that future, and it's something we should all work on together. Please keep an eye out for opportunities to weigh in. And Happy Rhody!

Councilmember Ben Thomas

SETTING SAIL ON THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

A message from City Manager John Mauro



Spring in the Pacific Northwest is my favorite time in my favorite place on Earth. There's so much going on for

the daylength to accommodate, and our community shines as brightly and colorfully as the rhodies.

I'm particularly excited this spring to sail – to finally extract myself from my kayak and take my keelboat certification class, over the course of two weekends, thanks to the genius of the Northwest Maritime Center. It'll be extra sweet to enter Point Hudson with the Port's breakwater complete and to celebrate International Maritime Day (May 22).

I'm also excited to set sail on the Comprehensive Plan, and for its creative community launch event on



Planning and Community Development Director Emma Bolin participating in discussion about the Comprehensive Plan with a community member at the recent T-Lab Conference.

May 9. Just like PT is not an ordinary town, this won't be an ordinary event. We are cooking up a progressive-dinner-style interactive evening with multiple destinations, fun activities, and a place-making exercise that will help bring us together and have fun as we take on our vision for 2045 together.

For those who can't make the event on the 9th, you're not sunk. You can

stay across related events, materials, and more at pt2045planning.org.

Over the course of the coming months, you'll find staff, volunteers, and Councilmembers out in our special community, using time and energy – perhaps yours! – to keep it and us shining brightly and colorfully. We look forward to talking with you about your vision for the future!

John Mauro, City Manager



Chemakum Tribal Elder Rosalee Walz.
Photo by Cristie Kisler

LIBRARY EVENTS

Story and History Telling with Chemakum Tribal Elder Rosalee Walz
Tuesday, May 14, 6 p.m. Carnegie Room

Join Rosalee Walz, a Chemakum Elder and Chairperson of the Chemakum Tribal Council, for an evening of story and history telling as she weaves into history the story of the Chemakum People. This program is a part of Port Townsend Chautauqua during Rhody Week.

Poems for the Time Being: A Reading and Conversation
Thursday, May 30, 5:30 p.m. Carnegie Room

Come join Port Townsend's Poet Laureate Conner Bouchard-Roberts and other acclaimed local poets for an evening of poetry and conversation about language and time. May's guest poets are Elio Wentzel, Steve Gillard, Velda Thomas, and Amber Autumn Leaves Huntsman.

For more information about other upcoming Library events, visit ptpubliclibrary.org.

MAY IS ART WAVE!

For the month of May, City Hall will participate in showcasing student artwork, created in the Port Townsend Schools, for Art Wave. This city-wide youth art exhibit celebrates creative expression through art and is a collaboration with PT Main Street, participating Port Townsend businesses, and PT Artscape.