PORT of OLYMPIA

COVER MEMO

Briefing Date:	November 16, 2026
Staff Contact/Title:	Alex Smith, Executive Director, alexs@portolympia.com, 360-528-8001
Subject:	Commission Goals and Strategies
Purpose:	☒Information Only ☐Decision Needed

Background/Overview:

At the August 12, 2026 Commission Retreat, the Commission reworked the ten goals from Vision 2050. The Commission rewrote the goals and combined two goals (goals 8 and 10) into a single goal focused on good governance. The reworked goals are the following:

GOALS:

Goal 1 — Preserve and enhance Thurston County's working waterfront and connection to trade.

Goal 2 — Strengthen and expand maritime recreation as a signature regional amenity.

Goal 3 — Transform the Port Peninsula into a premier destination for Thurston County and the region.

Goal 4 — Grow investments to create family wage jobs throughout Thurston County.

Goal 5 — Pursue opportunities, and identify the Port's role, in multi-modal transportation.

Goal 6 — Maximize the economic and community value of the Olympia Regional Airport.

Goal 7 — Promote environmental stewardship and innovation through collaborative partnerships.

Goal 8 — Prudently manage public funds and leverage public assets for long-term financial and public benefit.

Goal 9 — Demonstrate excellent public governance through strong administration, workforce excellence, transparent communications, and community engagement.

Following the retreat, staff built out strategies under each of the goals and circulated them to the Commission. A copy of the goals and strategies is attached to this cover memo.

Since then, staff have further segregated the strategies into those that can be completed in 2027, those that are ongoing, and ones that we anticipate having capacity to take on in 2028 and beyond. A copy of the strategies broken out by when staff believe they can be accomplished is also attached.

Staff's goal for the work session is to identify strategies that are priorities for the Commission. Staff will use those priorities to build work plans for 2027.

Alignment with Vision 2050:

Vision 2050 specifically contemplates that it should be updated every five years to reflect current priorities, new opportunities and technologies, and changing demographics within Thurston County. As we are just over six years after Vision 2050's initial adoption, it was a perfect time for this Commission to update the governing goals to reflect the Commission's current priorities for the Port.

Documents Attached:

Commission Goals and Strategies
Commission Goals and Strategies Broken Out by Time They Can Be Taken On

Summary and Financial Impact:

No financial impact, informational only.