

PORT OF FRIDAY HARBOR FINALIZES PURCHASE OF JACKSON BEACH CANNERY

The Port of Friday Harbor purchased the Jackson Beach Cannery last week with the final purchase documents signed and filed. The Port believes this substantial acquirement will greatly enhance the Port's ability to generate new businesses and provide public waterfront access. The Cannery is a unique property located with an enclosed 20,000 square ft structure. The site sits on a 2.12-acre parcel at the south end of Jackson Beach.

The Port will be accepting public written input and will also hold public meetings to determine how best to meet the three Port Commission objectives for the property. Those objectives are:

1. Create year-round living wage jobs
2. Provide public access to the waterfront
3. Protect and restore the environment

There is a fair bit of work to be done to adjust the property zoning to allow the maximum possible uses. Changing to the correct land use designation takes time. It is estimated that it may take up to 2 years before the plans and permitting allow the project to truly move forward.

However, public input about what islanders would like the property to become will make the planning process much more efficient and hopefully produce viable ideas that can be incorporated into the construction plans.

The Port is anxious to hold its first public meeting in the Spring of 2026. So, keep an eye on the Port of Friday web page for meeting announcements and updates regarding this project. The Port will also use additional media outlets to get the word out with the goal of getting as much input as possible from all interested parties. The Port is keeping all written suggestions for commission review and public comment; those can be sent anytime.

In the interim period, we encourage you to visit <http://portfh.org/cannery> to submit comments and suggestions.

The Port is committed to working closely with the public in determining the best possible use for this exceptional property and welcomes the opportunity to help our community grow by providing meaningful employment opportunities, new recreational venues and to protect and improve the environment.