



**Media Release  
August 27, 2018**

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**PORT OF CHELAN COUNTY HOSTS GROUNDBREAKING AT  
CASHMERE MILL DISTRICT**

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The Port of Chelan County is holding a groundbreaking ceremony at its Cashmere Mill District property, at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.

The event will kick off the construction of two general-purpose industrial buildings, each containing 16,500 square feet. The buildings will be completed in the spring of 2019. The Port-owned buildings will be used to support local businesses expansion and the recruitment of new businesses. Chelan County has provided financial support for the project. The Port and County joint investment will result in more jobs, private investment, and economic activity in the county.

Port Commissioner JC Baldwin, who represents Cashmere and the Wenatchee River Valley on the Port Commission, said, "This is a great day for Cashmere and the entire region. Through a lot of hard work, a largely underutilized and previously contaminated industrial property will be put back into full use."

The buildings are designed to be flexible, high ceiling, multi-tenant spaces. They can house production, warehouse, laboratory, office and many other uses. Due to the limited supply of available commercial/industrial property in the region, interest in the buildings has been strong. Three tenants have already committed to lease space and others have shown significant interest. They represent a mix of uses from local and out-of-state companies looking to expand.

When the Port purchased the property in 2008, it had a host of environmental issues including wood waste throughout the site. Since then, the Port has collaborated with the Washington State Department of Ecology, the City of Cashmere, the Washington State Community Economic Revitalization Board and others to remove contaminants, demolish the outdated buildings, improve Sunset Highway, and remove significant amounts of wood waste and replace with structural fill.

In 2017, the Port sold 3.5 acres of property along Mill Road to Louws Truss, a Washington business expanding into the region. Louws is nearing completion of construction of their truss manufacturing plant, which is already in production.

The program will include remarks from Port commissioners Rory Turner and JC Baldwin, Mayor Jim Fletcher of Cashmere, and County Commissioner Keith Goehner. Refreshments will be served. The ceremony will occur on the property between Sunset Highway and Mill Road. Parking will be available from Sunset Highway on the property.

For more information contact: Craig Larsen, Business Development Director, 509.663.5159