



## **Media Release June 27, 2016**

### ***Port of Chelan County Executive Director announces retirement plans***

Mark Urdahl, longtime Executive Director of the Port of Chelan County, announced today that he will retire from that position on December 31, 2016. Urdahl joined the Port staff in September of 1992, as Assistant Manager to then Port Manager Dick Harris, and he became the Port Manager and later Executive Director following Harris's retirement in 1994. The retirement date was discussed with the Port Commission and Urdahl will work with the Commission to complete several projects and support the Commission's efforts in recruiting the next Executive Director, and to initiate the process that will result in a new comprehensive and strategic plan that will enable the Port to respond to the changes taking place in the region and the local economy.

"I've very much enjoyed my work at the Port and with the diverse communities within Chelan County," Urdahl stated. "We've accomplished a great deal, and none of it could have been accomplished without the partners we've been able to work with, the direction and guidance of all of the Port Commissioners, and the staff and consultants that have served the public so very well."

Speaking on behalf of the Port Commission, Commission President JC Baldwin stated that "Mark's decision to retire is not a complete surprise to the Port Commission given his long service to Chelan County's economic development efforts. Mark has served the Port of Chelan County with distinction for almost 24 years and his dedication to building the Port into a high-performing organization focused on results is a testament to his hard work, vision and dedication. He has made this organization a tremendous asset to Chelan County and my hat is off to him. He leaves us in a very strong fiscal and organizational position to continue with the County's economic development success."

During the month of July, the Commission will determine the process to be implemented to select the next Executive Director.

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