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CHINOOK MEMORIAL BREAKS GROUND AT PARKERS LANDING HISTORICAL PARK

WASHOUGAL, WASH. (September 26, 2008) – With the Port of Camas-Washougal’s stamp of approval, a Chinook memorial breaks ground today at the historic Parkers Landing Park. This latest endeavor by the Parkers Landing Advisory Committee (PLPAC) will feature an 11-foot tall basalt column and interpretive signs located by a man-made pond, adjacent to the Van Vleet Historical Plaza.

“We are presenting this memorial to honor and keep in our minds the memory of the Native American Chinook,” said Roberta Tidland, PLPAC chair. “The Chinook Indians have lived on both side of the Columbia River for more than 3,000 years. This is their home.” For this project, the PLPAC has met with Gregg Robinson and Greg Archuleta of the Chinook Indian Nation, as well as Sam Jackson of the Grand Ronde Tribe.

Designed by architects Terry Harder and Doug Lee, this memorial project is anticipated to be completed this fall. This memorial will be funded by a \$15,000 Clark County historical promotion grant and \$31,576 by the Port of Camas-Washougal. “We congratulate the PLPAC on this wonderful project,” said Alan Hargrave, Port Commission President. “We appreciate the efforts of PLPAC to keep alive the historic significance of our waterfront, and this memorial is part of their legacy for our local community.”

Named in honor of David C. Parker, the first permanent American pioneer settler in East Clark County, Parkers Landing Park has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1976. A historical plaza at the park contains close to 1,000 bricks that have been engraved with the names of individual Chinook Indians, explorers and fur traders, as well as holders of donation land grants, homesteaders, pioneer farmers, business and civic leaders, churches, clubs/organizations, and local citizens.

Parkers Landing Park is adjacent to Marina Park on the Port of Camas-Washougal waterfront and marina. The tree-shaded Parkers Landing Park also features a rose arbor, walking path, and interpretive kiosk; and the park is popular for weddings, family reunions, and community events. Reservations for the Parkers Landing Park may be made at the Port administrative offices at (360) 835-2196. Please go to <http://portcw.com/parkersLanding.htm> for more information on the Parkers Landing Park.

ABOUT THE PORT OF CAMAS-WASHOUGAL

Formed in 1935 by a vote of the local community, the Port of Camas-Washougal features a 400-acre industrial park, a 79-hangar general aviation airport, and a 350-slip pleasure boat marina. In addition, the port has 40 industrial tenants and over 125 acres for future industrial development. Popular with recreational and general aviation pilots, Grove Field airport also has a state-of-the-art fueling station and 14 tie-downs. The Port of Camas-Washougal marina, largest on the Washington side of the Columbia River, is adjacent to two restaurants, a launch ramp, a marina park, fueling station, guest docks, and homeport to the Vancouver and Dolphin Yacht Clubs. More information about the Port of Camas-Washougal and its ongoing projects can be found at www.PortCW.com.

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