

**From:** Aston, Annie <[Annie.Aston@portofportland.com](mailto:Annie.Aston@portofportland.com)> **On Behalf Of** Leavitt, Keith  
**Sent:** Monday, April 8, 2024 9:07 AM  
**Subject:** T-6 Update

**Take Action Now –  
*Urge Legislators to Support Container Operations at T6***

Over the past month, we've heard from importers, exporters and many others throughout the state just how critical container services at Terminal 6 are. **I want to share a key update, as well as an extremely important and timely request for your help.**

**First, despite a forecasted loss of about \$14 million this fiscal year, the Port will maintain container service at Terminal 6 for the next fiscal year starting July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. We are doing this while at the same time needing the Legislative Emergency Board to take action on our \$8 million request at their meeting in May.**

We made this decision despite some risk because we believe it's the right thing to do for businesses across Oregon, who need continuity and certainty, and it's the right thing to do for the state's economy.

**Now is a critical time for legislators to hear from you.**

**Below, you'll find a template letter that you can personalize and email to your legislators,** asking them to prioritize container services in Oregon and commit to providing emergency funding so the Port can secure a long-term, third-party terminal lease.

1. To find your legislators' names and email addresses, [please click here](#).
2. Copy and paste the text of the below template letter into a new email – you can personalize the message so they understand why this issue is important to you – and add a subject line.
3. Don't forget to remove examples of personalization (highlighted in yellow), and please CC [Carmen.Merlo@portofportland.com](mailto:Carmen.Merlo@portofportland.com) before sending.
4. We'd appreciate seeing your final messages so if you didn't CC us, you can also forward a copy from the "sent" folder in your email account to [Carmen.Merlo@portofportland.com](mailto:Carmen.Merlo@portofportland.com).

Thank you for taking action to maintain container operations for Oregon.

Sincerely,  
Keith Leavitt

**Keith Leavitt** (he/him)  
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**TEMPLATE LETTER:**

Dear legislators,

I urge you to ask legislative leadership to prioritize local businesses' ability to engage in global trade by providing \$8 million in one-time funding for container operations at the Port of Portland's Terminal 6 when the Joint Emergency Board meets in May.

Add personalization here. (Why this service at T-6 is important to your business.)

Terminal 6 is Oregon's only international container terminal, and container services are crucial for businesses like mine across the state to ship our goods to global markets. Without marine container services in Oregon, we would be forced to rely entirely on trucking cargo to ports in other states, resulting in major increases in the costs of doing business, among other negative impacts.

The Port has subsidized container operations for years and is actively working to find a long-term, financially sustainable solution to maintain container services, but time is needed to complete this work. A one-time allocation to support container services will provide stability for Oregon exporters and importers during this process, while also protecting \$20 million in state and local tax revenue and 1,500+ jobs – from workers with the International Longshore and Warehouse Union and stevedores to trucking firms, railroads, freight forwarders and customhouse brokers, towing companies, pilot organizations and marine construction companies.

This is over and above the obvious transportation and environmental advantages from reducing truck traffic on I-5 and other major highways to Puget Sound.

While the Port has committed to continuing container services despite a \$14 million loss from container operations this fiscal year, gap funding is still critically needed as a long-term solution is sought.

An \$8 million allocation now will help the Port's efforts to secure a third-party terminal operator lease in the next year. It will also demonstrate your commitment to Oregon's only international container terminal and the constituents who rely on it, whereas a failure to provide this funding sends a negative message that the State does not support this critical transportation asset.

Thank you very much for your consideration and support.