

October 16, 2008

Dear Waterfront Neighbor:

It is hard to believe that another cruise season has come to a close. We had yet another record season with 211 cruise ship calls and over 886,000 revenue passengers. While the growth of the cruise industry brings many benefits to the region, we also recognize its impact on the adjacent neighborhood. We appreciate your continued support and always welcome your thoughts on the operation.

Next spring Bell Street Pier will continue to serve as homeport for Celebrity Cruises and Norwegian Cruise Line. Once the regular season gets underway in May, cruise ships will visit on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. I have attached the 2009 preliminary schedule for your reference. The big change regarding cruise will occur next season when the new cruise facility at Terminal 91 opens for business in late April just north of downtown. The new terminal will serve Holland America Line, Princess Cruises and Royal Caribbean for the 2009 season. The new facility replaces the current Terminal 30.

As we move into the "off-season" the Port will again make use of the deep water berth space at Pier 66 with other types of vessels. Beginning, October 20th we expect the Matson Kauai, a 720' container ship to berth at the dock. This is the same vessel that visited last year. The vessel serves the Seattle-Hawaii route, but is not needed during this time frame. It will remain idle at lay berth and with no containers on board during its stay. Some minor maintenance-type work may be completed on the vessel. We do not expect any significant noise from the vessel since it will be connected to shore power at the dock. However, the vessel will use its deck lights.

In addition, the Port will also provide winter moorage for two National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) vessels. The Miller Freeman, a 215' vessel, will arrive on October 20. The Okeanos Explorer, NOAA's newest ship will arrive on November 21. It measures 224'. Both NOAA vessels will undergo repairs while at the pier. We expect that all maintenance work will occur during the day.

If you have any questions, please contact Rosie Courtney, Manager, Cruise Public Affairs, Port of Seattle at (206) 728-3414 or via email at Courtney.r@portseattle.org.

Sincerely,

Michael McLaughlin
Director, Cruise & Industrial Properties