

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Port of Portland Promotes Keith Leavitt to Chief Commercial Officer**

Keith Leavitt has been named the Port of Portland's new chief commercial officer. Leavitt most recently served as the Port's general manager of business development and properties. In his new role, Leavitt will hold responsibility for the Port's business and economic development activities and will work to ensure the Port obtains a market-based rate of return on Port assets. He will oversee both aviation and marine business development functions along with acquiring, developing, managing and marketing the Port's diversified industrial real estate portfolio.



Leavitt joined the Port in 1999, first serving as state government affairs manager and later as development project manager. Highlights of his Port career include: leading a multi-year Port initiative to change the organization's container business model, including a global market solicitation for a long term lease of the Port's T-6 container terminal; and directing several key Port property acquisitions including Troutdale Reynolds Industrial Park and Gresham Vista Business Park.

Prior to joining the Port, Leavitt served as division manager and economic development representative for the Oregon Economic Development Department.

"Keith brings a strong background in business and economic development and commercial property management to this critical Port leadership position," said Port Executive Director Bill Wyatt. "His 15-year history with the Port, coupled with his insight into the business challenges and opportunities on our horizon, will serve the organization well as we continue our mission to provide access to world markets and grow the region's economy."

Leavitt holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Oregon State University and a graduate certificate in real estate development from Portland State University.

He replaces Sam Ruda who will leave the Port later this month to pursue other interests.

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*High resolution photo available upon request. Please contact Jerry McCarthy at 503-415-6474 or [jerry.mccarthy@portofportland.com](mailto:jerry.mccarthy@portofportland.com)*