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Following are the flip-chart notes from the September 18, 2018 Port Real Estate Workshop session titled, “Port Property Land-Use Planning,” led by Franc Pigna, Managing Director for Aegir Port Property Advisers.

There were six teams, three of which represented container ports and three which represented non-container ports.

Each team was asked to address a series of general questions, including:

Port Real Estate Leases:

- What can ports do in leases to ensure tighter control over their property assets in the medium to long term?
- What should be included in a lease to ensure that the port’s revenue streams are protected?
- What is or should be the relationship between a lease on a property asset or facility and throughput charges?

Land-Use Planning:

- What are some of the essential elements/inputs that should go into the land planning process for the current and future development of a port facility that will ensure its long-term competitive viability (e.g., position within the supply chain, cargo mix now and, in the future, asset management issues, etc.)?
- What are examples of functional and economic obsolescence at a port?
- In the land/master planning process, what should come first, engineering or market research?

General:

- What is the role of the port real estate manager?
- What are the risks of having non-cargo tenants at a port? How can this be mitigated?

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The container port teams were specifically asked to address:

- What role, if any, does real estate play in developing the terms and conditions for terminal concessions?
- Is there a ‘perfect’ balance between throughput and marine versus real estate revenues at a container port?
- Historically and currently, why do MAG’s (minimum annual guaranteed throughput) exists? Why do the ratings agencies want then as high as possible? What impact, if any, do they have on the port’s real estate values?

The non-container port teams were asked to specifically address:

- How do inland ports’ (i.e., ports with water access) business models differ from those of inland container transfer stations and gateway sea container ports?
- Should ports sell land within port perimeter for ‘economic development’ purposes even if the prospective buyer will generate cargo related revenues?
- In pricing ground leases, should proximity to the water result in a lease premium?

**Container Port Team Leaders:**

Michael Inman, Manager, Business Development, Port of Prince Rupert (Canada)

Christie Coats, Director of Real Estate, Port of New Orleans

Kelly Orum Sims, Real Estate Manager, Alabama State Port Authority

**Non-Container Port Team Leaders:**

Mike Schiller, Director - Business Development, Port of Vancouver USA

Lisa Lefeber, Acting CEO/Executive Director, Port of Everett

Diahann Howard, Director, Economic Dvpt. & Gov. Affairs, Port of Benton (WA)

## **CONTAINER PORT TEAM 1**

### **Leases: Tighter Controls**

- **Environmental**
- **Lease Language** re: **Maintenance**
  - **Be Clear**
- **Protect Value**
- **KPI's**

### **Container Terminal Concessions**

- **Start at Value – 1) Land 2) Rate of Return 3) Improvement Value**
- **Executive Management/Commission involved in negotiations**
- **Capture in leases – many times not captured**

### **Revenues**

- **MAG - Based on negotiated lease rates**
    - **Multi-step rates**
    - **Pay straight from tariff**
    - **Some ability to negotiate**
    - **Add'l throughput is gravy & at a reduced rate**
  - **MAG - Based on facility size**
    - **Tariff rates & special incentive letters**
  - **MAG - guaranteed income/revenue**
    - **Hammer for compliance & safety from competition**
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### **Challenges**

#### **1) Appraisals**

- **Negotiate down from value**
- **Competition**
- **Treat everyone equally**

#### **2) Maintenance**

- **Functional obsolescence**

**\* Should a tenant be kicked out for lease non-compliance?**

## **CONTAINER PORT TEAM 2**

### **Leases – Tighter Controls**

- **Benefit/Disadvantage – MAG**
- **Lease reopens vs. long term leases**
- **Asset maintenance**
- **Utilize the property**
- **Liquidated damage clause**

### **Ensure Revenue Streams are Protected**

- **Base Rent**
- **Financial covenants**
- **Guarantee from parent company/LOC/LLC**
- **Step in rights**
- **Early termination rights**

### **Lease/Throughput charges**

- **Base Rate/Tariff charges**
    - if guarantee +, you can discount
    - capital investment/discount
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### **Container Ports**

#### **Role real estate plays in developing terms for terminal concessions**

- **Real estate is not really considered in these agreements**
- **Engineers/lawyers/marketing div.**

### **Perfect balance**

## **CONTAINER PORT TEAM 3**

### **Land Planning**

- **Zoning restrictions**  
**Impacts to other agencies valuation**
- **Best use – definition**
- **Acquire land**
- **1<sup>st</sup> Market research**
  - **needs**
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Engineering**
  - **does land + info match?**
- **opportunity**  
**ex containers**

**Port authority's setting up other business units to work around core mandate but support community aspect**

- **Industrial land champion (agri-like land)**

## **NON-CONTAINER PORT TEAM 1**

### **Lease**

**Repairs + maintenance factored in + who responsible**  
**Lack of alignment between - immediate**  
**- future visioning**

**Monitoring lease performance**

**\* Long term leases need interim decision points to ensure fits need of both parties over time**

**Sublease SLA's**  
**Operating changes**  
**Commodities**

**Required return in infrastructure costs balanced against community enhancement**

### **Data sharing**

#### **#1 Permitting**

**Port or Tenant**  
**Stormwater/Operator**

**Clearly State Intended Use**  
**Use/Volume**

**Relocation TEQ with audits**

**CAPEX Requirements**  
**Based on Term**

#### **#2 – MAG on Volume**

**CPI or something else**  
**Larger security/bond**  
**Address environment issues at start**  
**Address CAM/other costs**  
**Move quickly internally**  
**Narrow Footprint**

#### **#3 70/30 Ratio depends on many factors** **30/70 Ratio**

#### **#4 Evaluate against market** **Divest in Infrastructure**

**Rail**  
**Land**  
**Current Facilities**  
**Participate in Local/State Federal Planning**  
**Manage Community Expectations**

#### **#5 Aging Assets** **Buildings** **Docks**

**Union Issues**

**Older Rail**

**Unrealized land opportunity**

**Truck parking vs building for jobs**

**#6 MKT - ENG**

**Build to future market trends**

## **NON-CONTAINER PORT TEAM 2**

### **Inland Ports**

**Pressure on price/competition fierce**  
**10 ports in Grant County (Washington)**  
**Specialty still valid in inland ports**  
**Not on Class 1 - hard to put in cargo**  
**Focus on 1<sup>st</sup> mile**  
**Data centers due to low energy cost**

### **Sell Land?**

**Hold land**  
**Restrictive covenant deed – limit to maritime**  
**– 1<sup>st</sup> Right of Refusal**  
**San Diego – can't sell land, but can exchange land**  
**New York – Do not sell – ground lease only**  
**Sell land to support jobs**  
**Joint exercise of powers agreement**  
**Mitigation ban**  
**Land use – gentrification**  
**Ground leases/profit**  
**Base rent based on land value**  
**Participation rent based on throughput**  
**Minimum rent (75% of performance)**  
**% rent (% of loan x sales for betterment of land)**  
**Long way to catch up with market**  
**Take % on exit of lease**

### **Cost share**

**3% food BID**

**5% beverage**

## **NON-CONTAINER PORT TEAM 3**

### **Challenges - Leadership**

**Finance support to move to asset managers**

**Sublets!**

**Antiquated land use laws**

**Non-productive use of land port should be able to take back**

### **Leases**

**Shorten Terms**

**Escalators, restrictions**

**Build in things that let us move with time**

**Re-appraise every 10 years**

**Term depends on investment**

**Assignment, results in new rate + lease no release until new negotiation complete**

**Negotiate special rates for special/space leases**

### **Land Planning**

**Zoning – process timing port facilities needs to be clearly defined**

**Seeking timing, environmental certainty**

**One person within agency = delay or turnover unacceptable**

**Inlands need to be more diverse, opportunistic**

**Ports should not sell waterfront “God only makes it once”**

**Yes higher value**