#### Economic Impact of the Hiram M. Chittenden Locks

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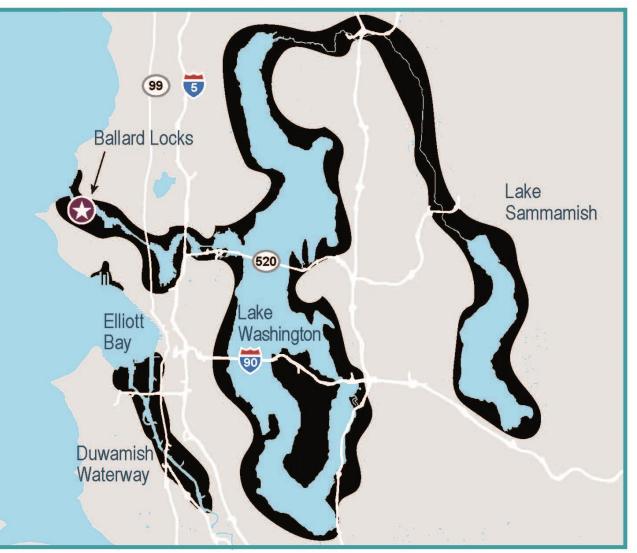
Lake Washington Ship Canal Users Group

**Prepared for:** 

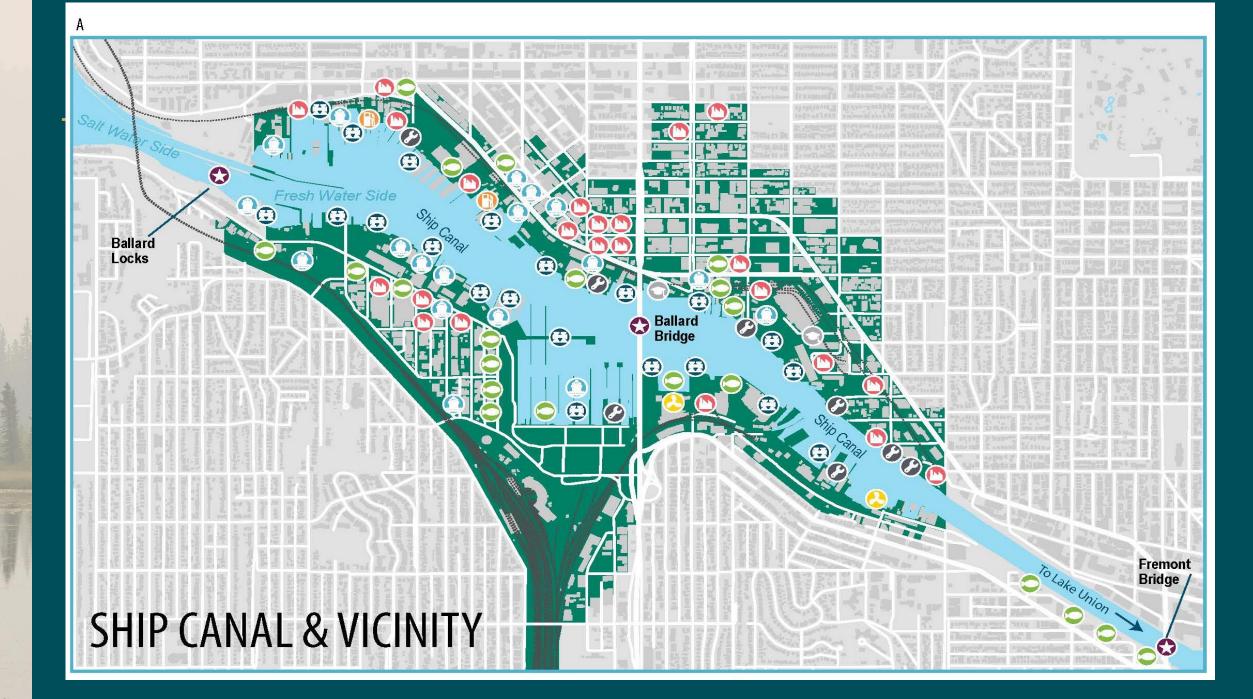
**Seattle City Council** 



# LOCKS ECONOMIC IMPACT AREA







#### **Reason for the Study**

- The Ballard Locks are 100 years old and need \$30 to \$60 million in new investment to make major systems reliable and safe.
- Loss of Congressional earmarks and increased competition for limited Corps funds.
- Army Corps budget process prioritizes investment on the basis of "Value to the Nation" (VTN), driven mainly by cargo tonnage.
- Value of the Locks is not accurately captured by Corps VTN formula.
- Ballard Locks provides many benefits not accounted for in the VTN; many are unique among USACE locks systems.
- Users needed to tell the story of the Locks and the economic value of the marine industrial network around the facility.

# **Ballard Locks Study Funders**

**Ballard Alliance Ballard Oil Company** City of Kenmore **City of Kirkland** City of Seattle **Coastal Transportation** Covich-Williams **CSR** Marine **Ferguson Terminal** Foss Maritime Company

Fremont Dock Company Kirby Corporation Lake Union Drydock Co. Malone Law Group PS **Nautical Landing Marina** The Nordic Heritage Museum Northwest Marine Trade Assn. Northwest Yacht Brokers Assn. O'Hara Corporation Pacific Fishermen Shipyard Port of Seattle

Puget Sound Ports Council, Maritime Trades Department AFL-CIO Seattle Marine Business Coalition **Stabbert Maritime** The American Waterways **Operators** Western Towboat **United Catcher Boats US** Seafood Vigor

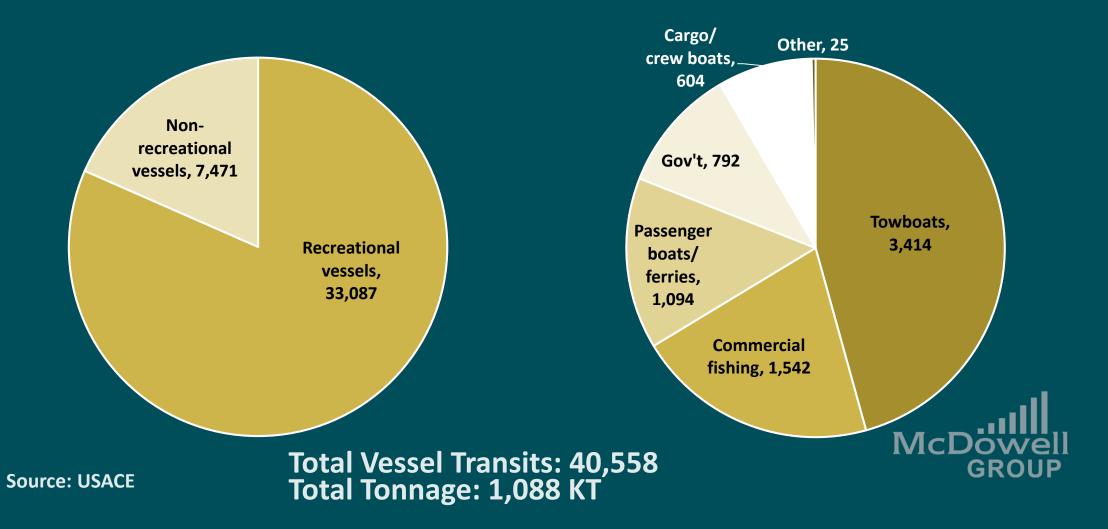
#### **Ballard Locks Budget and Funding**

- Routine Operations and Maintenance Budget
  - Between \$8.0 and \$8.4 million/yr from 2011 through 2017.
- Non-routine Repairs and Upgrades Expenditures
  - Avg of \$1.8 million/yr over the same period
  - Major projects remain unfunded



#### **Locks Traffic**

**Recreational vs. Non-Recreational Vessels, 2015** 



#### Non-Recreational Vessels by Type, 2015

## Value of the Ballard Locks

- Economic Value
- Environmental and Public Infrastructure Value
- Tribal Obligations
- Public Safety



## **Economic Value**

- Busiest in nation in vessel transits 40,000/yr
- 12<sup>th</sup> busiest in commercial transits 7,500/yr
- Supports \$1.2 billion in economic activity
- Tide-free, freshwater environment reduces maintenance costs and prolongs vessel life for 700 commercial and roughly 4,000 recreational vessels





# Economic Value (cont.)

- Indirectly supports an estimated \$785 million in seafood exports
  - 2016: 271 vessels 40'+ made ~1,600 transits of Locks
    - 200+ homeported in Washington
  - ~40% of active North Pacific fishing vessels over 58' moored and/or serviced annually inside the Locks
  - Vessels that transited the locks earned over \$500 million in 2016
- One of Seattle's most popular visitor attractions
  - 1.25 million visitors annually
  - \$38 million in visitor-related economic activity



## **Environmental and Public Infrastructure Value**

- Locks, spillway, and fish ladder safeguard \$125+ million in salmon habitat protection and restoration
- The only point of access and egress for salmon migrating in/out of the Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish watershed
- Controls water levels in Lake Washington and Lake Union to maintain SR 520, I-90, and 75 miles of shoreline in lakes and canal
- Access point for major infrastructure projects including 520 floating bridge and Ballard/Wallingford stormwater tunnel



## **Tribal Obligations**

- Locks are key to meeting federal responsibilities under treaties with Muckleshoot and Suquamish tribes.
- Muckleshoot fishing boats use the Locks annually (range of 20-80 vessels/year).
- Muckleshoot biologists work in partnership with USACE to monitor and manage fish runs.
  - Coho (21k/year)
  - Sockeye (115k/year)
  - Chinook (11k/year)



# Public Safety

- Rapid access between lakes and Puget Sound saves money and increases effectiveness for Seattle Fire Department, Seattle Harbor Patrol, U.S. Coast Guard, and King County Sherriff
- A major Locks failure due to earthquake or flooding could jeopardize billions of dollars in public infrastructure and threaten human life
  - Full extent of safety impacts currently under study by USACE
  - Report anticipated in Fall 2017





#### **Summary of Business Impacts**

Business Impacts	Value
Total annual gross revenues connected to the Locks	\$1.2 billion
Direct locks-dependent annual payroll	\$120 million
Direct locks-dependent jobs	3,000
Locks-dependent annual federal tax revenues	\$15 million



A long-term closure would be astronomical for us...Contracts would be lost. All of the shipyards would shut down. We would have to lay off workers.

– Tug and Barge Company

A three-month closure would mean laying off half of our workforce. Any longer, we would go out of business.

- Shipyard Owner

Quite frankly, if we didn't have the facility inside the Locks, there are not many options to do business in the Seattle area.

- Construction Company

The Locks are critical for marine firefighting and emergency response.... Without the Locks, it would significantly impact marine operations for firefighting.

– Seattle Fire Department

Honestly, we could not afford a three-month closure. I don't think it would be viable. We are providing a critical interstate transportation service that would no longer exist.

– Tug and Barge Company

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Lake Washington Ship Canal Users Group

