

Port of Everett acquires Mukilteo property for waterfront redevelopment

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The Port of Everett is acquiring nearly an acre on the Mukilteo waterfront as part of a long-term redevelopment plan.

On Thursday, the port commission authorized the \$3.5 million sale of the former Mukilteo ferry holding lane space, across from Ivar's restaurant at 707 Front St., from local developer Mukilteo Landing LLC.

The deal is set to close Sept. 2, with the port paying \$1.5 million upfront and the remaining \$2 million over the next 10 years. Washington State Ferries had leased the site prior to the opening of its new terminal in 2020, just east of Edgewater Park.

The 0.89-acre purchase is "certainly a step in the right direction," Port Commissioner Tom Stiger said in a release. "The community



PORT OF EVERETT

The Port of Everett is acquiring a 0.89-acre site on the Mukilteo waterfront as part of a future redevelopment.

will be well-served as the Port works with the City of Mukilteo to redevelop the waterfront.”

Planning for the redevelopment is underway, with construction a long way off. What the project will look like remains unclear.

Earlier this summer, the port and city approved a "vision" for the 26-acre waterfront, which stretches from Lighthouse Park to Edgewater Beach. The properties include the former Mukilteo tank farm site, which the port acquired from the U.S. Air Force in 2013.

The vision calls for the waterfront to be pedestrian- and boater-friendly, culturally relevant and environmentally responsible, with year-round attractions.

Seattle-based architecture firm NBBJ is doing the initial planning, including data gathering and community engagement.

The project comes as the port moves forward with its redevelopment of nearby Everett's waterfront. That public-private project is costing north of \$550 million, and brings apartments, two hotels, retail and commercial space, and more.

Meantime, Mukilteo Landing LLC will use the space across from Ivar's for public parking. The 99-stall lot is an "interim" tool to widen access to the waterfront "until a plan can be developed, approved and constructed," Port of Everett CEO Lisa Lefebber said in the release.

Also in Mukilteo, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is set to begin demolition in a few weeks of its former waterfront research station.