



Districts connect sea and land transport

- *23 port districts exist throughout the state that are independent local governments and not part of a local city or county.*
- *Are a critical part of the state's multimodal freight transportation system in that goods are transferred between ships, barges, trains, aircraft and trucks on their way from production facilities to markets.*
- *Create and maintain industrial and commercial infrastructure, own and develop industrial parks for lease, are important to state tourism and the commercial and recreational fishing industries. Several ports operate air terminals and railroads in addition to marine facilities.*
- *Oregon's nine ports on the Columbia River make up one-quarter of the 36-port Columbia-Snake system; along with one in Idaho and 26 in Washington. The three ports on the Lower Columbia (Astoria, St. Helens and Portland) are deep water ports. Oregon has 14 coastal ports, including the deep water ports of Newport and the Oregon International Port of Coos Bay.*
- *Governed by a board of five commissioners elected in May of odd-numbered years serving four-year terms. Each commissioner shall be an elector registered in the port. Commissioners of the Port of Portland and the Oregon International Port of Coos Bay are appointed by the Governor.*
- *District board is completely responsible for personnel administration, financial administration, and seeing that the requirements of laws governing areas ranging from public records and public meetings to civil rights are met.*
- *Receive tax revenues based on voter-approved permanent rate not to exceed one-fourth of one percent (0.0025) of the real market value of all taxable property within the geographic boundaries of the district. Each year a port may also assess, levy and collect a tax upon property in an amount sufficient to pay the yearly interest on general obligation bonds or other indebtedness, together with any portion of the principal of general obligation bonds maturing within that year.*

