

EXPLORING A GREEN CORRIDOR TO ALASKA

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

A maritime corridor with zero greenhouse gas emission ships and operations between Seattle and Alaska.

WHAT IS A GREEN CORRIDOR?

A [green corridor](#) is a cruising or shipping route where zero climate and air emission solutions are demonstrated and supported. Green corridors create the technological, economic, and regulatory feasibility for zero greenhouse gas emission ships.

In 2021, twenty-four countries, including the U.S. and Canada, signed the [Clydebank Declaration](#) and in doing so, committed to support the establishment of at least six green corridors by 2025 while aiming to scale up activity in future years.

The Port of Seattle and many of our partners have established zero-emission goals for the future. A green corridor creates a pathway in partnership towards making zero greenhouse gas emissions ships a reality sooner.

WHY CREATE A GREEN CORRIDOR TO ALASKA?

Five powerful reasons make the Pacific Northwest (PNW) the natural home for one of the first U.S.-based green corridors and the first global green corridor to include cruise ships.

1. Strategic advantage

- The PNW is a highly diversified hub for maritime research and development, innovation, engineering, and for private sector companies pioneering clean technologies and maritime fuels.
- The corridor between Seattle and Alaska, is a well-established partnership with 200+ round-trip Alaska cruises annually, homeport to a vibrant North Pacific fishing fleet that supplies 13 percent of the total U.S. commercial fishing harvest by tonnage, a robust ferry system, and homeport to our nation's U.S. Coast Guard Arctic Operations.
- The Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA) provides the exclusive cargo gateway serving Alaska communities and is the 4th largest U.S. maritime cargo gateway with connections along the U.S. West Coast and Asia.

2. Climate urgency

- [Plans](#) are already underway for PNW ports and industry to chart a course to zero-emissions. Ambitious climate action is needed now to ensure our collective success in the future.
- Washington State laws and programs are already in place that support reducing carbon emissions from transportation.

3. Environmental justice

- A green corridor and the transition away from fossil fuels can accelerate environmental justice for near-port communities that experience more exposure to air pollution.

4. Economic opportunity

- Maritime industries drive approximately \$16 billion in business activity in Seattle and support tens of thousands of jobs, including NWSA shipping.
- In addition to cruise and cargo connections, the Alaska Marine Highway provides economic opportunities to over 30 communities from Bellingham, WA to Dutch Harbor, AK.
- Washington and the Port of Seattle are training the next generation of maritime workers and leaders at Maritime High School, by supporting the innovation needed for a zero-emissions maritime future with a Maritime Innovation Center and a maritime organization cluster committed to a sustainable future.

5. We are ready

- A distinct maritime corridor exists between Puget Sound and Alaska with regularly scheduled vessel calls by cruise, commercial fishing, cargo, ferries, and tug industries.
- A zero greenhouse gas emissions maritime future is coming. A green corridor builds on our regional strengths and partnerships to develop a sustainable business model for the future.
- The global Getting to Zero coalition found that four critical building blocks are needed to establish a green corridor: (1) cross-value-chain collaboration, (2) a viable fuel pathway, (3) stakeholder interest and customer demand, and (4) policy and regulation. These building blocks exist in the Pacific Northwest or could be achieved soon.

JOIN US

The Port of Seattle is actively soliciting ports, industry, governments, and decarbonization subject matter experts to explore a green corridor for all maritime vessel modes between Seattle and ports in Alaska.

For more details, contact:

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