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July 17, 2017—FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Invited to Celebrate Trail, Artwork, and *The Gathering Place*

Kennewick, WA--On Friday, August 4th, 2017 at 10:30 a.m. the public is invited to join the Port of Kennewick, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) Board of Trustees, and Tamastlikt Cultural Institute in celebrating completion of recreational improvements, art, and interpretive installations on Clover Island. The sidewalk/boardwalk was extended between the Clover Island Marina and West Marina Professional Building parking lots—providing public access to the entire south side of the island overlooking the marina harbor. And two bronze statues, “The Exchange” by artist Rodd Ambrosion, will be installed within The Gathering Place—a setting especially designed to share the Tribes’ history, culture, and tradition of gathering Tule reeds within the area now known as Clover Island. August 4th festivities include Tribal drum & dancers, a ribbon cutting, dedication of The Gathering Place, and a public reception.

When: Friday, August 4th, 2017 at 10:30 a.m. to 12:00noon

What: Blessing Ceremony/Celebration of Recreation, Art, & Interpretive Improvements

Where: Crowd will gather under tent canopy at Clover Island; Clover Island Dr., Kennewick, WA; parking available throughout the island

Clover Island has been in the Port of Kennewick’s property portfolio since 1942. The port partnered with the Tribes and Kennewick Arts Commission to complete the south shoreline amenities. The Port’s goal is transform Clover Island into a vibrant, destination waterfront and to stimulate urban renewal within Historic Downtown Kennewick. *Completion of The Gathering Place project means a new mixed-use commercial lot will be available for development on Clover Island; providing an opportunity to bring jobs, business and residential activity to Kennewick’s waterfront.*

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The Port of Kennewick is a municipal corporation serving taxpayers in Kennewick, Richland, West Richland, Benton City, and portions of unincorporated Benton County. The port’s mission is to develop those assets which create sustainable family wage jobs, user friendly transportation systems, and quality of life enhancements for visitors and residents of the port district.