



## Port of St. Helens

### Community Profile

**County** Columbia

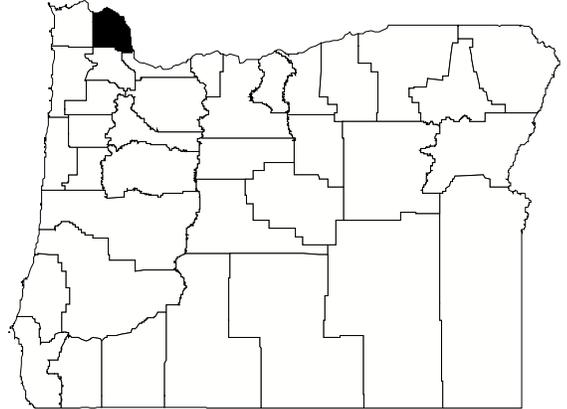
**City** Columbia City

**Population** 49, 351

### Description

**Sponsor** Port of St. Helens

**Supervisor** Craig Allison



**Assignment** Port of St. Helens is a special district focused on the creation and sustainment of jobs, primarily through the use of transportation infrastructure, land sales and leases, and access to bond finance. The Port of St. Helens' mission is not only recruiting new businesses but also helping industries that currently exist. The Port of St. Helens works with numerous businesses as Port tenants that provide hundreds full time jobs. Approximately 2,600 acres of property split between a general aviation airpark, a public marina, and a combination of light and heavy industrial zoned sites exist within the Port's boundaries.

The RARE participant placed with the Port of St. Helens will carry out an array of planning activities. Specifically, the participant will use GIS to develop a more sophisticated mapping of Port properties for marketing and development efforts; provide vital assistance with the complex permitting process needed for further development of the Port Marina; assist with compiling various grants; and, help address an increasing need to develop more robust Emergency Management Plans.

### Meet Blake Helm



Blake received his Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy from The University of Texas at Austin. After attaining his Bachelors Degree he went on to complete a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in GIS from Penn State University. After attaining his Post-Baccalaureate Certificate, Blake worked with Lane Council of Governments, Willamalane Parks and Recreation, and the Army Corps of Engineers on an array of GIS related projects. Needless to say, Blake is more than efficient when it comes to GIS. Blake applied to the RARE Program in hopes of further developing a skill set that will allow him to find work in his most desired career field – planning and community development. Following his year with the RARE Program, Blake plans to apply to the University of Oregon's Community and Regional Planning Graduate Program.