

Port of Everett Announces New Waterfront Hotel

June 14, 2017

Everett

Big news from the Port of Everett this morning...



Drawing provided by Port of Everett

On June 13, the Port Commission authorized the CEO to sign a long-term lease with Waterplace LLC, a partnership with Columbia Hospitality, to construct the 142-room flagship Hotel Indigo in Fisherman's Harbor at Waterfront Place.

Hotel Indigo is a flag under Intercontinental Hotel that is branded as a lifestyle boutique hotel with luxury accommodations. The hotel, which will be the first of its kind in Washington State, will feature a restaurant, lounge, indoor swimming pool, conference center, retail shops and business center. Some of the other flags operated by Intercontinental include the popular Kimpton, Even Hotels, Crowne Plaza, Staybridge Suites, Candlewood Suites, and the entire suite of Holiday Inns.

"We are honored to collaborate with the Port of Everett on what will be a transformational project for the downtown Everett waterfront," said Columbia Hospitality founder and CEO, John Oppenheimer. "Our collective goal is to create an incredible destination for locals, tourists and businesses alike, stimulating economic growth for Snohomish County."

The selection of Columbia Hospitality, with investments by Omar and Christine Lee, came after a competitive solicitation for hotel operations in 2016. The Port received three well-known hotel submittals, but after extensive review and deliberation, decided the Hotel Indigo concept most accurately represents the global nature of the Port of Everett's international seaport and compliments the adjacent Pacific Rim Plaza that is designed to honor the international trading relationships in Everett.

PORT COMMISSION REACTION

"Columbia Hospitality has a great track record of revitalizing waterfront communities through tourism. We are excited about working with Columbia as they bring their talent and record of success to our waterfront."

Port Commissioner Troy McClelland

"The quality of this new waterfront hotel will create a year-round destination for residents and visitors to enjoy. I look forward to their grand opening, and the new business and tourism opportunities they bring to our waterfront."

Port Commissioner Tom Stiger

"The very feeling of a hotel room is important to me. When that feeling is right, I know that I'm welcomed. I'm sure that guests will have that same feeling at the Port of Everett's Hotel Indigo. This will be another gem for Everett. Who wouldn't want to stay here?" – Port Commissioner Glen Bachman

"We are thrilled to be selected as the management partner for a new waterfront hotel and restaurant," said Yogi Hutsen, executive vice president of Columbia Hospitality. "The hotel will offer an incredible guest experience and one of the largest event spaces in the Everett, allowing the city to attract larger meetings, conferences and special events."

The deal includes Columbia Hospitality constructing and operating an 86,163 square feet hotel under a 50-year land lease, with three 10-year options.

"The Port team received proposals from three well-known and qualified hotel operators to serve as the anchor tenant for Fisherman's Harbor," said Terrie Battuello, the Port's Chief of Business Development. "Ultimately, we selected Columbia Hospitality because of their Hotel Indigo flag that prides their facilities on embracing the character and history of the communities that they operate in, and the Waterfront Place story is the heart and soul of this new waterfront community."

The Port's Waterfront Place development embraces the history of the Everett waterfront and is integrated its story of early tribal communities, commercial boat building, commercial fishing, wood products production, international trade and the railroad into all aspects of its development, Battuello said.

The hotel is scheduled to start construction in January 2018, and will be designed in a way to maximize the Port's infrastructure features and pedestrian patterns, with lobbies to activate streets and a lively and attractive public realm. The hotel is dovetailing its opening with the SeaLevel Properties, a subsidiary of American Classic Homes, residential development that is slated to open in mid-2019.