



# BAYPORT REPORT



PORT OF HOUSTON AUTHORITY

SUMMER 2007

## PHA Continues its Commitment to Find Sound Reduction Solutions

In an April 18 meeting initiated by Mayors Alton Porter of La Porte and Jayo Washington of Shoreacres, Port of Houston Authority officials and acoustic engineers met with more than 140 residents to discuss ways to reduce sound levels in the area. Some options were presented as possible solutions to the noise levels residents attribute to the recently opened Bayport Container Terminal.



The residents were also updated on loud noises from two activities in the Bayport Ship Channel. As a result of calls made to the port authority's Bayport hotline, two major noise issues were resolved. One

was related to bunker fueling. PHA representatives contacted the company and it worked expeditiously to repair its equipment. The other noise was related to the United States Army Corp of Engineers' (USACE) periodic dredging. The port authority contacted USACE, which worked quickly to identify the noise source and expedited the dredging process. As of April 23, USACE completed its required dredging and maintenance of the federal channel.

The port authority is committed to managing the noise levels resulting from its construction and operations and is willing to work with residents to find reasonable solutions. PHA has received more than 60 written comments from residents who attended the meeting. The port authority will continue to take

comments regarding the proposed options over the next 30 days, meeting with residents and reviewing viable solutions. Mayors Porter and Washington have scheduled another



meeting for 6 p.m. on Wednesday, June 6, at the Sylvan Beach Pavilion. The port authority remains committed to continuing to work with the Bayport community to find feasible solutions.

Port authority officials updated the residents about techniques used to reduce sounds from the daily Bayport Terminal construction and operations, including:

- The purchase of yard trucks, top loaders and RTGs with enhanced exhaust muffler systems. Observations and tests on enhanced units at Barbour's Cut Terminal indicate the equipment should be on the order of 5 to 10 dB(A) quieter than their typical counterparts at BCT.
- ZPMC wharf cranes were shown to meet required reduced terminal noise goals during endurance testing. Noise from the cranes themselves is below ambient levels at the nearest residences. The ZPMC cranes have no-slap cable designs and impact noise reduction systems on the spreader bars.
- Construction equipment tests showed that the Zachry earth-moving equipment was typically 5 to 10 (and as much as 20) dB(A) below typical EPA sound-level values.
- Construction equipment, including muffler systems, has been maintained in good working condition.
- Almost all construction activity has been confined to 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- Site plans and routes have been designed to optimize traffic flow and reduce the use of backup alarms.
- Dredge noise sources have been measured and assessed, and noise-control devices are being installed on winches, cranes and pumps.
- As required by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) permit, the PHA monitors sounds continuously at two locations on the north shore of the Bayport Channel and at another location to the southeast, near the El Jardin community.
- Construction and port operations equipment has been equipped with broadband (backup) alarms wherever feasible. This alarm maintains warning capabilities but is more directional, and emits a quieter broadband whisper, instead of a conventional beeping tone.

Dear Neighbor:



Being part of the community is a tremendous responsibility. The citizens look to the terminal as an economic engine that supports employment, generates personal income, stimulates local tax revenue and attracts business to the area. At the same time, Bayport has been diligent in becoming a good corporate neighbor.

### Wetlands

A huge sum of money and effort has been invested in making the terminal the greenest container facility in the United States. The Port has implemented measures to protect and conserve 1,101 acres of wetlands and other invaluable habitats. That amount of land happens to be larger than Bayport itself. And, most of that acreage has been placed in conservation easements, including Katy Prairie and Banana Bend sites. Bayport plans to replace jurisdictional wetlands at a ratio of more than 3 to 1, to increase habitat available for fish, waterfowl and other coastal wildlife. The beneficial use of dredged material will create up to 200 acres of inter-tidal marsh.

### Environmental Progress

The use of cleaner fuels and improved engine technology will help reduce air emissions. Also, the three-mile buffer zone surrounding the terminal will include a landscaped sight and sound berm that will be 20 feet tall. This zone includes part of a water collection system that protects Galveston Bay. The lighting system uses black poles specially designed to limit nighttime light glare impacts at the facility.

### ISO 14001

In 2002, the Port of Houston became the first U.S. port to implement an environmental management system that complies with ISO 14001, the global standard for environmental excellence. Bayport's plan for air emissions reduction, solid waste recycling, energy conservation and storm water quality improvement are the key objectives of the Port's environmental management system. Everyone associated with the operations at Bayport is committed to following the necessary protocols to obtain ISO 14001 certification within approximately one year.

We will continue to update the community about these amazing, state-of-the-art terminal features in future editions of the newsletter. If you have any questions or comments about Bayport, please call the information line, 713.670.1000.



**Tom Heidt** joined the Port of Houston Authority staff in January 1982. During his tenure at the Port he has held management positions in accounting, trade development and operations. Tom earned his PPM (professional port manager) certification in 2002. Tom is a member of numerous industry associations.

"The most exciting aspect of Bayport is the technical advances we are implementing to the gate and yard which make the terminal as efficient as any in the world."



**Jeff Davis** is the Port of Houston Authority's container operations manager for Barbours Cut and Bayport container terminals. He is responsible for appropriate relationships with customers, facility users and labor. His responsibilities also include oversight of technology in use at PHA container terminals.

Davis joined PHA in 1994 as assistant operations manager at Barbours Cut. In 1997, he was promoted to special projects manager and was named container operations manager in 2000.



**Steve Cassidy** is the Port of Houston Authority's assistant operations manager for Bayport Container Terminal. He is responsible for appropriate relationships with customers, facility users and labor.

Cassidy joined PHA in 2001 as vessel services superintendent at Barbours Cut. In 2004, he was promoted to assistant operations manager in charge of truck gates at Barbours Cut and was named assistant operations manager for Bayport in 2006, reporting to Jeff Davis.

## Impact: Bayport

Many industry experts assert the Port of Houston's Bayport Terminal has already taken a significant place on the global stage because of its innovative design and capacity.

Closer to home, Bayport will have a powerful impact on the local economy. After five years of operation, the combined container and cruise terminal is projected to generate 9,825 jobs, \$395.4 million in personal income, \$1.1 billion in business revenue and \$35.6 million in state and local taxes.



At full buildout of the facility in 15 or more years, 32,163 jobs, \$1.4 billion in personal income, \$2.4 billion in business revenues and \$128 million in state and local taxes will be produced from Bayport's operations.

It took the port authority 12 years, from 1987 to 1999, to go from a volume of

500,000 TEUs of containerized cargo, to one million. In 2005, the Port passed the 1.5 million TEU mark and, with Bayport now online, PHA will soon reach 2 million TEUs.



## Bayport Prime Contractors

The Bayport Terminal construction project is a massive coordination of contractors and service providers. In fact, over the past two years, the construction site has had an average of more than 300 contractor personnel each day. These contractors are prepared to safely handle the most challenging elements of this demanding project.

### Bayport Prime Contractor List

ARCADIS G&M, Inc.

BAESystems Information and Electronic Systems Integration, Inc.

BRH-Garver Construction, LP

CB&I Constructors

CenterPoint Energy

FMT Aircraft Gate Support Systems AB

KCI Special Cranes Corporation

L.A. King Company

M.Space Holding, LLC

McCarthy Building Companies

Morganti-Texas, Inc.

Orion Construction, LP

Pacific Northwest Laboratories

Shanghai Zhenhua Port Machinery Company, Ltd.

Zachry Construction Corp.

## "The Berth of Bayport"



On February 10, members of adjacent communities and Port of Houston Authority employees attended the new Bayport open house and facility tour. The new Bayport management team – headed up by Container Terminal General Manager Roger Guenther and many Bayport Terminal staff members, greeted about 600 guests from Bayport area communities including LaPorte, Seabrook, Shoreacres, Pasadena and Deer Park.

Attendees were given the opportunity to learn about and tour the most technologically advanced container terminal on the U.S. Gulf Coast. Attendees were given a guided bus tour of Bayport and a complimentary photo of them standing in front of a typical ship that will call at the terminal.



At full buildout, the \$1.4 billion facility will nearly triple the port authority's container handling capacity. Bayport will have a total of seven container berths with the capacity to handle 2.3 million TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units) on the 376-acre container yard and a 123-acre intermodal facility.

### A more extensive list is found at:

[www.portofhouston.com](http://www.portofhouston.com)

The Port of Houston has carefully assembled this prominent team of companies, allowing them to showcase their unique capabilities and core competency while working as strategic team members in building this unique, world-class facility.



## Good Neighbor Hotline: 713.670.1000

The Bayport Terminal Construction Project includes a Telephone Information Line designed to allow residents of adjacent communities and businesses to obtain information or to comment on the construction and operation of the terminal.

If you have a question, comment, or concern, please leave a message and your call will be responded to in a timely manner. Every effort will be made to get in touch with the appropriate contact at Bayport who can provide the caller with complete details surrounding each inquiry.

## Come See Bayport:



Would you, your organization or civic group like to take a tour of the Bayport Container and Cruise Terminals or have someone from the Port of Houston Authority address your organization? Please contact Shar Lynch at 713.460.2831 to book a tour or a speaker for your organization's meetings. Tours are scheduled for Thursdays and Fridays between the hours of 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

The Port of Houston Authority has had the opportunity to speak to local groups in the Bay Area. Some of those include, in event date order:

- LaPorte Rotary
- Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla
- SEACAP
- Space Center Rotary
- Houston Yacht Club Executive Board
- Pasadena Rotary
- DPCAC
- BAYCAP
- Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce
- LaPorte-Bayshore Chamber of Commerce
- League City Rotary

## Upcoming Events:

### SEACAP

**Date:** June 13, 2007

**General Membership Dinner:**  
State of the Port of Houston Authority

**Time:** 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

**Location:** The Hampton Inn-Seabrook

### Deer Park Chamber of Commerce

**Date:** June 28, 2007

**General Membership Lunch:**  
State of the Port of Houston Authority

**Time:** 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

**Location:** Battleground Golf Course

\* To attend these meetings, please contact the individual organizations for ticket cost and to make reservations.

## The Port of Houston Delivers a Good Neighbor Plan



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