

# The City-Port Relationship in the United States

*Rencontre Internationale de Québec  
Définir la relation ville-port de demain  
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Alliance of the Ports of Canada, the Caribbean, Latin America and the United States

Seaports  
Deliver  
Prosperity

American Association of Port Authorities  
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# American Association of Port Authorities

## *Representing Seaports of the Western Hemisphere*

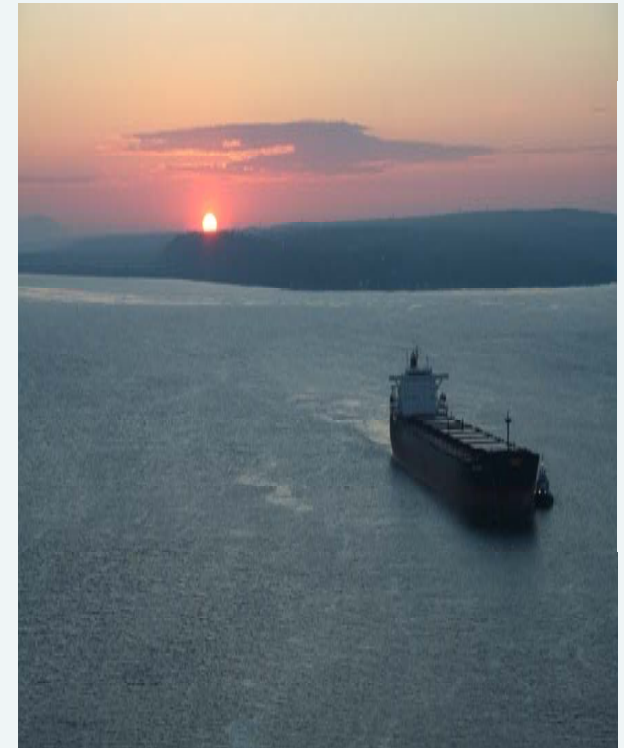
- 150 Members from throughout Western Hemisphere
- AAPA provides a space for collaboration and exchange of best practices
- Fostering collaboration among members and allied groups. We do this through:
  - Education and Training
  - Networking and one on one interaction
  - Legislative and Policy support
  - Outreach



# Seaport Industry Overview

## *Committed to Keeping Seaports Navigable/Secure/Sustainable*

- For centuries seaports have been an economic lifeline
- Seaports help build and grow international trade; strengthening local and national economies
- Provide high paying jobs and increase standard of living
- Seaports connect us to the rest of the world
- Keeping seaports modern, navigable, safe and in the national interest is a **CORE PRIORITY** for AAPA



# The City-Port Relationship



- Villages, towns and cities built up around seaports because the water provided an efficient method of moving goods.
- Over time these ports and their cities became important economic drivers by facilitating trade and generating economic vitality.
- Today more than ever, seaports continue to be a critical link for access to the global marketplace.
- Seaports are at the center of trade and transportation, however, they are not alone in this important role.

# Seaports Have Many Partners

- Today, as we confront a host of international challenges there is a clear and critical role for our ports.
- Ports are dynamic, vibrant centers of trade and commerce, but what's most important to understand is that seaports are partnerships.
- A successful seaport is supported by clear and navigable waterways – dredged deep and wide enough for ships to pass through, and kept clean for the plants, fish and wildlife around it to thrive.
- A successful seaport is supported by the government properly funding the roads, highways, and waterways around the seaport.
- A successful seaport is one whose regional, city and local officials take an active role in the proper upkeep of those systems.

# Seaports as Partnerships

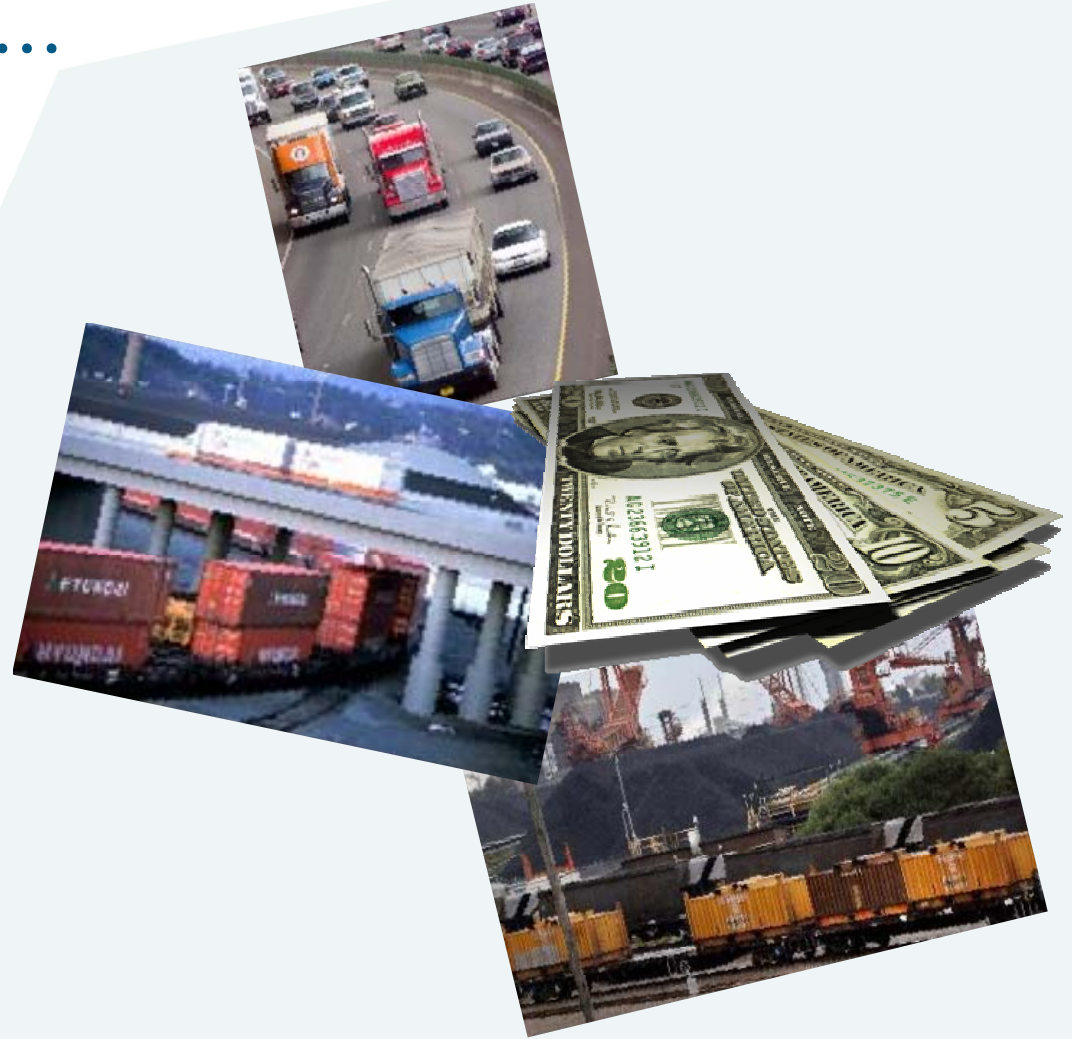
- In the United States, ports are investing over \$2 billion/year in their facilities, and rely on the federal, state and local governments to uphold their end of the bargain maintaining the waterside and landside connections to ports.
- Modern, navigable seaports are vital to international commerce, economic prosperity and must remain a federal priority, even in these times of fiscal restraint.
- Making this case is a large part of our job every day at AAPA yet the idea of funding ports – and the critical infrastructure projects that support them – isn't really new.
- Throughout history, leaders who understand the value of ports have pushed for funding for a strong infrastructure system of roads, rails and waterways that would support ports and allow for the efficient movement of freight.

# Seaports as Critical Link to Global Trade

- Seaports are critical link to global marketplace, and AAPA and its members are committed to keeping seaports modern and efficient.
- Seaports support 13 million jobs/strong family wages
- Every \$1billion in exports creates an estimated 15,000 jobs in the U.S.
- More prosperity will come with initiatives such as President Obama's call to double U.S. exports by 2014 and the Canadian Gateway program.
- New opportunities on the horizon with regard to trade agreements and opening markets.

# While Economic Growth has been a Challenge, There is a Bright Side...

- Ports are pushing ahead with capital expansion programs.
- This has created jobs and new business opportunities.
- There are new trade programs and agreements and more demand in China and other countries
- Panama Canal Expansion



## As we Move Forward: A Need for Investment and **STRONG** Partners

- Maintaining infrastructure that supports international commerce must be a priority.
- Navigation channels and connecting landside infrastructure must support the facilitation of trade – which is robust and growing!
- Investing federal, state, local and private resources into seaports and connecting infrastructure is critical
- On the landside there cannot be bottlenecks and break downs in road/rail systems
- On the waterside navigation channel dimensions must keep pace with needs (especially with Panama Canal expansion)

# AAPA U.S. Policy Issues

**Existing transportation programs do not adequately address goods movement!**

- AAPA policy focuses heavily on improving port infrastructure and connections through greater investment in;
  - Federal navigation channels and marine highways
  - Port, road and rail infrastructure

## Landside Access

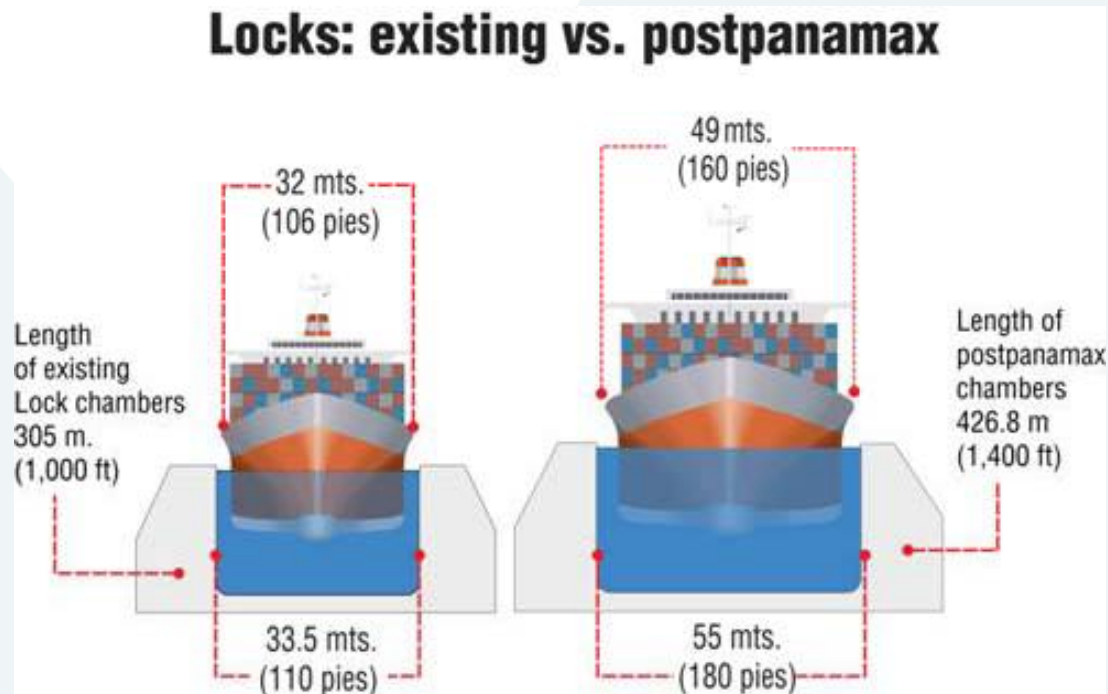
- In the U.S. Pending Surface Transportation Legislation Overdue: Ports advocating for greater focus on freight transportation.

## Waterside Access

- Federal navigation channels not being maintained at authorized dimensions.
- The federal government does not fully utilize the Harbor Maintenance Tax (HMT) for its intended purpose and critical dredging needs have been neglected. (only half the required dredging is done).

# Navigation Channels Need Deepening

## *Panama Canal Poses New Challenges with Bigger Ships to Come*



- With ships getting increasingly larger and with Panama Canal expansion, dredging deep-draft navigation channels is critical
- Need to increase navigation channel deepening & widening investments to stay globally competitive
- Without deeper channels we cannot take advantage of new export opportunities

# Seaports Deliver Prosperity

## *Emphasizing the value of seaports...*

- Need for big-picture messages and more global understanding of seaports as vital part of economy.
- A hemispheric campaign lends credibility, cachet to individual port efforts.
- A better public understanding of seaports – more support – more infrastructure investment, trade and local collaboration.
- With current economic pressures, policymakers, influencers and the public need to know seaports deliver the goods – in good times and bad.
- Better understanding and appreciation for seaports can achieve great results.

## Some Final Thoughts

- The role that seaports play to the economy cannot be overstated, especially in these difficult economic times.
- Nearly everything we buy or consume – everything from the clothes we wear, to the foods we eat, to the coffee we start our day with – comes to us on a ship, through one of our seaports.
- As broad and as big as this impact is, ports serve as local economic engines as well. And in cities and towns around the world, their impact is felt even more acutely.
- Together we can communicate the importance of seaports and prepare ourselves for the challenges to come.