

Celebrating 90 Years



of Service to the World

THE PORT REPORT

PORT OF HOUSTON AUTHORITY

AUGUST 2005

CELEBRATION MARKS COMPLETION OF WIDER AND DEEPER HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL

A tanker bound for the ExxonMobil terminal symbolized the first vessel to enter the wider and deeper Houston Ship Channel August 18 following a ceremonial ribbon cutting by the **Port of Houston Authority's Chairman Jim Edmonds, Commissioner Steve Phelps, Commissioner Jim Fonteno, Commissioner Jimmy Burke, Commissioner Cheryl Thompson-Draper, Commissioner Janiece Longoria**, and a host of elected officials who gathered



aboard the Houston Pilots' vessel Bayou City. As PHA fireboats gushed streams of red, white and blue-colored water, more than 300 contractors, environmental and maritime leaders, and other port stakeholders watched the momentous occasion from the decks of *The Colonel* paddlewheel boat.

Now at 530 feet wide and 45 feet deep, the channel is an integral part of the Houston region's industrial, environmental and recreational interests.

"I have made it my mission to teach my colleagues about the importance of this valuable national asset," remarked **Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison** during a program at the PHA Cruise Terminal just before the ceremony on the waterway.

House Majority Leader Tom DeLay stated, "The Port of Houston is our past, our present and our future. As long as I am allowed to serve the citizens of the Houston area, I will make sure the Port of Houston continues to thrive and drive our economy."



The dignitaries in attendance for the celebration included **U. S. Representative Gene Green; U.S. Representative Al Green; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Brigadier General Jeffrey J. Dorko; U.S. Coast Guard Captain Richard M. Kaser; Harris County Judge Robert Eckels; Harris County Commissioner Sylvia Garcia; Mayor Pro-Tem and Houston City Council Member Carol Alvarado; Berdon**

Lawrence of Kirby Corporation; Houston Pilots Captain Michael Morris; Eddie Seidensticker of the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service (representing the Beneficial Uses Group); and Gene Autry of Bay-Houston Towing.

Museum of Cultural Arts Executive Director Reginald Adams unveiled a commemorative mosaic mural created by **Jessica DeAlba**, a student in Houston's High School for Performing and Visual Arts.



JULY PORT COMMISSION HIGHLIGHTS

- BRH-Garver Construction, L.P. was awarded a contract in the estimated amount of \$1.795 million to build a lift station and force main at Bayport.
- The Port of Houston Authority was authorized to issue a purchase order to Fire Apparatus Specialty for one HAZMAT emergency response truck at Bayport. Estimated cost: \$273,682.
- Zachry's contract was amended by \$12.96 million to include two 1,000-foot berths when the terminal opens.
- PHA was authorized to advertise and receive CSPs for the potential purchase of one 45,000-lb. capacity forklift machine for Bayport. Estimated cost: \$255,000.
- Forklift Systems of Texas was awarded a contract for the purchase of five yard tractors for Barbour's Cut terminal. Estimated cost: \$331,580.
- PHA was authorized to pass a new resolution to increase the local sponsor's share for the Fairmont Parkway Overpass Project. Estimated cost: not to exceed \$6.31 million.

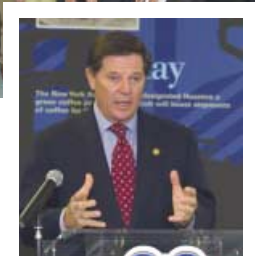


MAJORITY LEADER DELAY ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR PORT AREA TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

Four of PHA's high-priority projects totaling more than \$40 million in funding have been included in the Transportation Reauthorization Act, U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay announced during a press conference on August 9 at the Lou Lawler Seafarers' Center in Morgan's Point. President Bush has signed the legislation.

The Transportation Reauthorization Act includes funds for the straightening and widening of Port Road near State Highway 146, the construction of direct connectors from State Highway 146 to Port Road, the grade separation of Choate Road over State Highway 146 and the Union Pacific Railroad corridor, and grade separating State Highway 146 over Red Bluff and a future Port Terminal Railroad Association line that will cross under State Highway 146 in the area.

The four southeast Harris County projects are expected to ease traffic congestion, improve the flow of cargo in and out of the port, and improve commuter safety.



BURKE RE-APPOINTED TO PHA COMMISSION

Jimmy A. Burke has been re-appointed to the Port of Houston Authority Commission for another two years. Initially appointed to the PHA commission in August 1999, Burke is the chairman of the PHA's international business development task force and a founding member of the community relations committee.

Commissioner Burke also serves as chairman of the Economic Alliance Houston Port Region. The Alliance, in collaboration with the PHA, the Greater Houston Coffee Association, and the city of Pasadena will present the first Coffee and Cocoa Symposium on Thursday, October 20 at the Pasadena Convention Center in Pasadena. For more information about the symposium, call 1-800-848-4080, or visit www.allianceportregion.com/symposium.



QUESTIONS?

Please direct all inquiries and comments to:
The Port of Houston Authority
Public Affairs Division
111 East Loop North • P.O. Box 2562
Houston, Texas 77252-2562
Phone 713-670-2827 • Fax 713-670-2425
E-mail: ljohnson@poha.com
Web site: www.portofhouston.com

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James T. Edmonds, Chairman
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