

# THE PORT REPORT



PORT OF HOUSTON AUTHORITY

AUGUST 2007

## Harris County Approves PHA \$250 Million Bond Election



Harris County Commissioners unanimously approved the Port of Houston Authority Commission's request to call a bond election November 6 and include a \$250 million bond proposal to support PHA capital projects. The bond funds would be used primarily for building the next phases of the Bayport Container and Cruise Terminal project and for security and environmental improvements, as well as transportation facilities.

The opening phase of Bayport – a planned \$1.4 billion facility – began operations in late January 2007 and facilitated 65,000 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs, an industry standard of measure) through its first five months of operation. At build-out, Bayport is designed to handle 2.3 million TEUs annually. Harris County voters approved a 1999 bond package of \$387 million to begin construction of the Bayport facility. PHA has been a careful guardian of taxpayer-supported funding, port authority officials say, and will continue to maximize expenditures from its revenues for the projects it needs to continue to deliver jobs and economic development to the community.

## Gov. Perry Signs Bill, Authorizing Creation of First-of-its-Kind Houston Ship Channel Security District

On August 14 at the Port of Houston Authority, Texas Gov. Rick Perry signed into law House Bill 3011, authorizing creation of the Houston Ship Channel Security District (HSCSD) – the first of its kind at a U.S. port.

"The symbolic signing of this bill is an essential step toward our ability to protect the vital resources of our state," said Perry. "Home to 40 percent of the petrochemical industry in the U.S., the Houston Ship Channel should be at the top of the list. We have no other option but to secure this gateway."



Texas Gov. Rick Perry signs House Bill 3011, authorizing creation of the Houston Ship Channel Security District

In its 80th biannual session, the

Texas Legislature authorized the creation of the HSCSD, an entity which its proponents hope will serve as a security model for ports throughout the United States. The brainchild of PHA Chairman James T. Edmonds, the HSCSD is a public-private partnership designed to help improve security within the Houston Ship Channel area by assisting with the local share and operations and maintenance cost of security infrastructure.



Gov. Rick Perry, Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Sylvia Garcia and PHA Chairman James T. Edmonds



Gov. Rick Perry

# July Port Commission Highlights

At its July 17 meeting, the Port Commission of the Port of Houston Authority:

- Approved awarding a construction contract to M & I Electric Industries, Inc., for C-2 Substation redundant transformer at Barbours Cut Terminal in the amount of \$535,000.
- Approved awarding a construction contract to Demar, Ltd., for Bayport marine gate expansion, stage 2 – installation of canopies, booths and pedestals for \$866,553. To accommodate increasing volumes of containers processed by shipping lines, this expansion adds two entry lanes and two exit lanes.
- Approved awarding a construction contract to Oates Industries, Inc., for Bayport marine gate expansion, stage 2 – installation of two platform scales for \$173,808.
- Approved advertising and receipt of competitive sealed proposals for splash zone painting at Wharf Nos. 1-7 and Lash Dock at Barbours Cut at an estimated cost of \$1 million to \$1.4 million.
- Approved advertising and receipt of proposals for professional services to conduct a goods movement air emission inventory at the Port of Houston. The effort is a vital part of understanding the actual footprint of goods movements at the Port of Houston in the Houston-Galveston-Brazoria area.



Port of Houston Authority  
Commissioner Kase Lawal

## Food Drive Helps Houston's Hungry



PHA Chairman Jim Edmonds and Captain Robert Thompson of the Houston Pilots presented the donations to KHOU-TV for the Houston Food Bank

Employees at the Port of Houston Authority delivered the goods to the hungry, in KHOU-TV's 20th annual Spirit of Texas Food Drive.

The PHA donated \$2,170 and 1-1/2 bins of food items, and the Houston Pilots supported the food drive with a donation of \$2,500.

PHA Chairman Jim Edmonds and Captain Robert Thompson of the Houston Pilots presented the donations to KHOU-TV for the Houston Food Bank.

The Houston Food Bank, which feeds 80,000 people on any given week, is able to acquire \$8 worth of food for every dollar donated.

## Moore Joins Houston Port Bureau



Tobi Moore

Port security specialist Tobi Moore is the new president of the Greater Houston Port Bureau, replacing Capt. Alistair Macnab, who retired in June. This group is a non-profit organization that facilitates domestic, intermodal and international commerce to promote economic growth through domestic Texas Gulf seaports.

Moore joins the port bureau after four years service as port security specialist at U.S. Coast Guard Sector Houston-Galveston. She transitioned the former Port Security Subcommittee, under the Houston-Galveston Safety and Navigation Committee, to comply with the requirements of the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002, establishing an area maritime security committee.

She began a 26-year, active duty and reservist career in the U.S. Air Force in 1978 as a jet engine mechanic. Her tenure as a reservist involved a number of disciplines, including public affairs, personnel management and production control for the Hurricane Hunters.

### 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: 713-670-2834  
Fax: 713-670-2425  
E-mail: [mstewart@poha.com](mailto:mstewart@poha.com)  
Web site: [www.portofhouston.com](http://www.portofhouston.com)

### Port of Houston Authority Commission

James T. Edmonds, Chairman  
Steve Phelps  
James W. Fonteno, Jr.  
Kase L. Lawal  
Jimmy A. Burke  
Janiece Longoria  
Elyse Lanier

Executive Director H. Thomas Kornegay

