



# THE PORT REPORT

PORT OF HOUSTON AUTHORITY

JULY 2008

## Houston Ship Channel Security District Plans Meetings

Industry and local officials involved in the creation of the Houston Ship Channel Security District, designed as a public-private partnership to help improve security within the channel, are currently reaching out to the facilities that will be located within the district with informational meetings.

When a majority of these facilities – which include East Harris County Manufacturers Association plants and those regulated by the Maritime Transportation Security Act – has signed the petition to create the district, the document will go before the Harris County Commissioners Court for final approval. It is expected to go before Harris County later this summer or early fall.

The district will be governed by a board with representatives from industry, Harris County, the Port of Houston Authority and the Harris County Mayors and Councils Association. New projects will be funded through federal grants with operations and maintenance covered by the fees paid by industry within the security district. For more information on the district, see [www.hscsecurity.org](http://www.hscsecurity.org).



## Friendship Award to PHA Highlights Stronger Panama/Houston Ties



Juan B. Sosa, U.S.-Panama Business Council; PHA Chairman Jim Edmonds, The Hon. Carmen G. Vergara, Minister of Commerce & Industry of Panama; and Adsinar Cajar Bocek, Consul General of Panama in Houston, *courtesy of DINASTIA ATINA.*

As a tribute to growing trade and a strengthening relationship between Houston and Panama, the U.S. Panama Business Council USA president Juan B. Sosa presented the Port of Houston Authority with a Friendship Award on July 14. PHA Chairman Jim Edmonds accepted the award at the council's Panama Day inauguration dinner.

With the Panama Canal representing a strategic link between the PHA and East Asia, the PHA recently relocated its regional office for trade growth within Central and South America, excluding Brazil, to Panama City, Panama. The PHA has also renewed and extended its Memorandum of Understanding for three years with the Panama Canal Authority.

The council's southwest chapter will have headquarters in Houston and Ricky Kunz, general manager, PHA Trade Development, was appointed to its board of directors.

## PHA Hosts AAPA Seminar on Security Challenges of Public Seaports

The American Association of Port Authorities' (AAPA) 12th Port Security Seminar and Exhibition, hosted by the Port of Houston Authority, July 16–18, focused on the security and safety challenges confronting public seaport agencies and marine terminal operators throughout the Western Hemisphere.

The seminar also featured a day-long exhibition on July 17 to showcase the latest security trends, technologies and products in the seaport industry. Key topics of discussion included implementing the Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) program; working with federal port security program initiatives such as Operation Safe Port and the new "100 percent" cargo screening mandates; and planning for disaster recovery and continuity of business after a terrorist incident.



PHA Managing Director Wade Battles; Robert Hecker, Port of New Orleans; Mike Smith, Port of Southern Louisiana; and Cosmo Perrone, Port of Long Beach.

## June Port Commission Highlights

At its June 24 meeting, the Port Commission of the Port of Houston Authority:

- Approved a construction contract to Jerdon Enterprise, L.P. for Woodhouse Terminal Access Control, for \$1.28 million.
- Approved a construction contract to Security Integrators & Consulting for Access Control at Barbours Cut Administration Building and other locations for \$301,300.
- Approved a construction contract to Jerdon Enterprise, L.P. for Access Control, CCTV and Fiber at selected facilities at the Turning Basin for \$719,719.

At a special meeting called on June 27 to discuss Agenda G5, which was pulled from the agenda, the Port Commission of the Port of Houston Authority:

- Approved a construction contract to McCarthy Building Companies, Inc., for Bayport Terminal Complex Phase 1 Wharf for \$100.5 million.



PHA Commissioners Janiece Longoria and James Fonteno, Jr.

## STAR Judges Join Volunteers for Clean & Green Judges Day



Debbie Breazeale, Shell Oil Company, PHA Commissioner Elyse Lanier, Judge Mike Wilkinson, Anne Olson, Buffalo Bayou Partnership and Hedy Wolpa, Greater East End Management District.

Judges from the Harris County Drug Treatment STAR (Success Through Addiction Recovery) traded their robes and gavels for work clothes, gloves and “grabbers” and joined 100 volunteers in a two-hour successful clean-up on and along the banks of Buffalo Bayou as part of the Clean & Green Port of Houston Program. About 25 cubic yards of trash, enough to fill a typical commercial construction dumpster, was collected.

Called “Clean & Green Judges Day,” the effort enlisted judges, who worked alongside 19 non-violent drug offenders from the STAR program as they performed community service work. They were joined by volunteers from the Clean & Green program partners: Shell Oil Company, Buffalo Bayou Partnership, Greater East End Management District, the Ogg Law Firm and the Port of Houston Authority.

## The Port Delivers Food to the Hungry



PHA Commissioner Jimmy Burke.

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

The PHA donated \$3,242 and 50 pounds of food items, and the Houston Pilots supported the food drive with a donation of \$2,500. PHA Commissioner Jimmy Burke presented the donations to KHOU-TV and the Houston Food Bank.

The Houston Food Bank, which feeds 80,000 people on a given week, distributing 35 million pounds of food per year, is able to purchase \$8 worth of food for every dollar donated.

## CLEAN & GREEN PORT OF HOUSTON PROGRAM

Summer storms left 165 cubic yards of stormwater trash for the Clean & Green Program to clean up in June. Eleven months into the program, a total of 1,713 cubic yards of trash has been collected, enough to fill almost 67 garbage trucks.

Each month, Clean & Green collects two and three times as much stormwater trash as the skimmer boat alone did just a year ago. If piled on a basketball court, the mountain of trash collected in 11 months is nearly 10 feet tall.

### 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

