

## Port of Oakland Executive Director says it's the "moment to modernize"

Danny Wan delivered State of the Port 2024 address to stakeholders



*Danny Wan speaks to a sold-out crowd at Jack London Square*

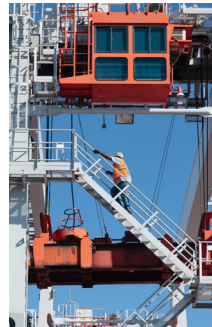
In his annual State of the Port 2024 address, Port of Oakland Executive Director Danny Wan highlighted proposed infrastructure and environmental projects that will reframe the future of shipping and transportation in Northern California. In his speech to a sold-out crowd of Port and airport stakeholders, community leaders and elected officials, Executive Director Wan emphasized the critical importance of proposed projects like widening the shipping turning basins at the Oakland Seaport, modernizing Oakland International Airport terminals and implementing numerous projects to move the Port towards its zero-emissions goal.

"Through our focus on upgrading and modernizing infrastructure, the Port will reshape shipping, travel and entertainment," said Port of Oakland Executive Director Danny Wan. "All these projects are essential for local job creation and the economic vitality of the San Francisco Bay Area." → 02



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**PORT OF OAKLAND**

Seaport. Airport.  
Everyone's Port.

**State of the Port** continues

The Port has proposed modernization of the terminals at Oakland International Airport. This will allow it to accommodate future travel demand, improve passenger experience and provide a greater diversity of flights for the region. The proposed widening of the Oakland Seaport turning basins will make big-ship navigation safer and more efficient as well as protect the jobs generated by the Port of Oakland.

Late last year, the Biden Administration announced that hydrogen projects at the Port of Oakland were in line for federal and state funding when California was designated as a hydrogen hub and awarded up to \$1.2 billion in federal funding for project development.

Construction of a hydrogen fuel station has begun near the Oakland Seaport. It will provide hydrogen trucks that haul cargo with clean, zero-emissions energy. This is just one example of innovative projects that are cleaning the air in and around the Port of Oakland.

Mr. Wan emphasized, “2024 is the year we take action to move the Port forward. Modernization



Above – *Laura Germany, Pacific Merchant Shipping Association Vice President, Oakland Mayor Sheng Thao & Port Executive Director Danny Wan.*

will help us grow while reducing our impact on surrounding communities. It is our moment to modernize.”

Proceeds from the event, sponsored by the Pacific Merchant Shipping Association and Women in Logistics (WIL), benefit the WIL Scholarship Fund and the International Maritime Center. ❖



**State of the Port 2024 Video [HERE](#)**

“2024 is the year we take action to move the Port forward. Modernization will help us grow while reducing our impact on surrounding communities. It is our moment to modernize.”

Danny Wan, Executive Director  
Port of Oakland





## Port of Oakland remains preferred gateway for refrigerated export cargo in 2023

### Commercial value of international reefer exports through Oakland topped \$7 billion

The Port of Oakland is a refrigerated cargo powerhouse. It ranks number one by TEU (twenty-foot container) volume in international refrigerated (reefer) export trade among United States (US) ports. Oakland has ranked first among all US ports in international reefer export TEUs for seven consecutive years.

The total commercial value of reefer exports through Oakland reached \$7.1 billion in 2023.

“The Port and its partners have made significant investments in state-of-the-art, temperature-controlled facilities over the past seven years, including Cool Port, PCC Logistics and Custom Goods,” said Port of Oakland Maritime Director Bryan Brandes. “With this additional cargo capacity and

value-added services, we have been able to consistently attract the reefer export business.”

The Port of Oakland is a premier export gateway for refrigerated products, due in part to its central location on the US West Coast. The Port is often the last US port of call for container ships before they set sail for Asia. Therefore, refrigerated cargo can arrive fresher to overseas markets by leaving from Oakland.

In 2023, the Port of Oakland’s reefer export volumes increased by 4%, while total US volumes for temperature-sensitive exports declined by 20%. The Port increased its overall market share of reefer exports by 4.1%, from 14.2% to 18.3%.

Top reefer commodities exported from the Port are beef, pork, fruits, dairy products, and vegetables. ❖

## March is Women’s History Month



In 1927 the Oakland Board of Port Commissioners were celebrated on the front page of the *Oakland Tribune* as “The Men for the Big Job.” We’ve come a long way since then. Now, for the first time in history, the majority of Port Board Commissioners are women! Thank you **Board President Barbara Leslie** (1) and **Commissioners Arabella Martinez** (2), **Jahmese Myres** (3) and **Stephanie Dominguez Walton** (4) for your service.



### INDUSTRY RESOURCE LINKS:

- ▲ [Oakland Portal](#)
- ▲ [Oakland Seaport Map](#)
- ▲ [Ocean Carrier Services](#)
- ▲ [Shipping Forms & Permits](#)
- ▲ [Shore Power & Vessel Commissioning](#)
- ▲ [Trucker Resources](#)
- ▲ [TWIC](#)
- ▲ [Maritime Services Directory](#)



## Port of Oakland February container volume is up again Continued growth points to signs of sustainable recovery

The Port of Oakland February 2024 container volume grew, surpassing the 2023 volume for the same month last year.

Full imports rose for the fourth month in a row, recording a 32.1% increase, moving 76,734 TEUs (twenty-foot containers) in February 2024 through Oakland, compared to 58,073 TEUs in February 2023. Consumer spending remains strong in Northern California, helping to bolster import volume.

Full exports were up by 24.2%, moving 69,242 TEUs in February 2024, in contrast to 55,279 TEUs in February 2023. This marks the third month in a row that exports have increased. They have reached their highest monthly total since May 2022. Consumer spending is also high in Asia, which is good news for local exporters shipping their goods through the Oakland Seaport.

In the first two months of this year, combined full TEUs are up 18.1% over the first two months of 2023.

## Maritime Moments

*Albers Milling Company, a leading exporter and distributor of grain, feed and flour, circa 1920. The high cost of contract dredging led the city of Oakland to purchase its own dredge, shown here. Dredging is the Port's long-term investment in the regional economy and local jobs. ❖*



## February container volume continues

“The trends we saw in previous months have continued in February,” said Port of Oakland Maritime Director Bryan Brandes. “Consumer demand remains strong in Northern California & Rocky Mountain States region for imports and in Asia for the region’s exports. We believe that cargo volume will continue to modestly grow for the rest of the year, reversing some of the declines we saw in 2022 and 2023.”

Empty imports dropped 9.8%, with 13,142 TEUs passing through Port facilities in February 2024, in contrast to 17,299 TEUs in February 2023.

Empty exports also dropped 7.2%, handling 23,633 TEUs in February 2024, compared to 38,014 TEUs in February 2023, recording the seventh straight month of decline. This indicates that more containers are returning to Asia loaded with U.S. goods. ❖



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