

Leaders celebrate projects to improve transportation, goods movement at the Port of Oakland

Projects will modernize aging infrastructure, implement state-of-the-art technology and improve air quality in neighboring communities at busiest port in Northern California

The Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC), Port of Oakland, and City of Oakland in late July announced important milestones for two major transportation improvement projects at the Port of Oakland.

The two projects celebrated include:

- **A Ribbon Cutting for the Freight Intelligent Transportation Systems (FITS) Project:** Installation of state-of-the-art technology to more efficiently manage truck arrivals and goods movement, improve safety and incident response, and reduce vehicle wait times and emissions; and
- **The Groundbreaking for the 7th Street Grade Separation East Segment (7SGSE) Project:** Improvements to a primary gateway to the Port of Oakland, including roadway reconfiguration and reconstruction; upgrading the current bike and pedestrian pathway to meet today's ADA and design standards and connect with the waterfront; and a project "green element" with live plants on the pathway wall at the community's request. → 04



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Ceremonial groundbreaking for the 7SGSE project





Port of Oakland Executive Director and California Association of Port Authorities (CAPA) President Danny Wan was in Washington, D.C. the end of July meeting with White House and Department of Transportation (DOT) officials to discuss infrastructure projects that will bring more maritime business and local jobs to Oakland. The delegation of port leaders was led by California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) Secretary Toks Omishakin. Picture left: Omishakin (left), DOT Secretary Pete Buttigieg, Danny Wan. ●



Port of Oakland July container volume on the rise

Full import and export volumes register double digit increases

The Port of Oakland's loaded container volume climbed to its highest level since October 2022.

Full TEUs (twenty-foot containers) grew 16.8% in July 2023 with the Port handling 136,181 TEUs compared to 116,629 TEUs in July 2022.

Full imports rose 12.5%, with 78,122 TEUs transiting Oakland marine terminals, versus 69,463 TEUs in July 2022. Full exports jumped by 23.1%, with 58,059 TEUs traversing Port facilities, compared to 47,166 TEUs in July 2022.

Although exports showed a sizable increase compared to the same period last year, July 2022 container volumes were abnormally low. Despite the spike in exports, July 2023 volume is lower than the 2023 monthly average year-to-date.

Vessel calls are continuing their upward trajectory and the length of time each ship spends at berth has decreased, suggesting that cargo is flowing more smoothly, and that pandemic-era congestion is behind us. This should help the Port capture a chunk of the increase in demand.

"We are encouraged to see container volumes gradually rebounding," said Port of Oakland Maritime Director Bryan Brandes. "The Port is making great investments at the Oakland Seaport to foster growth which ultimately benefits the local economy and helps power local jobs."

Empty imports increased 16.5% or 14,196 TEUs in July 2023, compared to 12,185 TEUs in July 2022, while empty exports declined 1.2%, registering 31,179 TEUs in July 2023, down from 31,542 TEUs in July 2022.

Link to Port of Oakland container volume data: <https://www.oaklandseaport.com/performancefacts-figures/> ●

Pasha Hawaii celebrates the inaugural arrival of 'MV Janet Marie' at the Port of Oakland with a christening ceremony

Pasha Hawaii and the Port of Oakland celebrated the arrival of *MV Janet Marie* to the Port of Oakland (*photo below*) with a christening ceremony, marking the company's second Liquefied Natural Gas ("LNG")-powered container ship to call the Bay Area. The Oakland Seaport is considered the gateway for containerized ocean cargo shipments in Northern California.

Janet Marie is the second of two new 'Ohana Class, 774-foot LNG-powered container ships built at AmFELS. The company's first 'Ohana Class vessel, *MV George III*, began service on August 17, 2022 becoming the first LNG-powered container ship to call the Bay Area.


Pasha Hawaii is a subsidiary of the 76-year-old, third-generation, family-owned company The Pasha Group, whose roots were planted in the Bay Area in 1947. *George III* and *Janet Marie* are named in honor of George Pasha, III and Janet Marie Pasha, the late parents of Pasha Hawaii's President and CEO George Pasha, IV.

"These ships represent the legacy of my parents and the company they helped build from humble beginnings in San Francisco," said George Pasha, IV, President and CEO, Pasha Hawaii. "The success of our family business has always been based on ingenuity, striving for excellence and doing what is right for our customers and the communities where we live and work. Both *George III* and *Janet Marie* provide our customers with best-in-class vessels, while setting the standard for environmental stewardship when it comes to ship design and construction. Today is a very proud moment for the entire Pasha team and our family."

Pasha Hawaii and the Port of Oakland celebrated the arrival of *MV Janet Marie* at Oakland with a christening ceremony, marking the company's second LNG-powered container ship to call the Bay Area.

Chris Connor, President and CEO of the American Association of Port Authorities and Board Member of The Pasha Group served as emcee for the christening ceremony. Connor was joined by guest speakers Danny Wan, Executive Director of the Port of Oakland; Oakland Deputy Mayor Kimberly Mayfield; Seafarers International Union President David Heindel; and Pasha Hawaii President and CEO George Pasha, IV. Pastor Michael Ryan and Sister Judy Ryan, of St. James Cathedral in Seattle and siblings to the late Janet Marie Ryan Pasha, conducted a Catholic blessing, followed by a traditional Hawaiian blessing by Kahu (Pastor) Kordell Kekoa of Honolulu. George Pasha, IV's sister, Mary Jane Pasha, served as the ship's sponsor, overseeing the breaking of the champagne bottle.

Operating on natural gas from day one, the new Jones Act vessel surpasses the International Maritime Organization (IMO) 2030 emission standards for ocean vessels, representing the most technologically advanced and environmentally friendly vessel to serve Hawaii. Energy efficiencies are also achieved with a state-of-the-art engine, an optimized hull form, and an underwater propulsion system with a high-efficiency rudder and propeller.

"We thank Pasha Hawaii for bringing the sister ship of the first LNG-powered containership to call the Port of Oakland," said Port of Oakland Executive Director Danny Wan. "This visit by the *MV Janet Marie* helps us become an even cleaner and greener seaport." 



Port of Oakland Executive Director speaks at the christening ceremony for the Janet Marie.



Leaders Celebrate Projects *from page 1*

Leaders heralding the two milestones included: Alameda CTC Chair and Emeryville Mayor John J. Bauters; Oakland Mayor Sheng Thao; Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Commissioner, Alameda CTC Commissioner and Alameda County Supervisor Nate Miley; Port of Oakland Board of Commissioners President Barbara Leslie; California Transportation Commission Chair and President/CEO of the Fresno County Economic Development Corporation Lee Ann Eager; and California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 4 Director, Dina El-Tawansy representing the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA).

“The FITS and 7SGSE projects are bringing critical improvements to the local community as well as to the larger region,” noted Alameda CTC Chair John J. Bauters. “These efforts will increase the safety and efficiency of truck and rail access at the busiest port in Northern California. We are also delivering a high-quality modern bicycle and pedestrian pathway connection to Middle Harbor Shoreline Park and a project greenwall along 7th Street, reflecting improvements requested by West Oakland residents.

“Our thanks go to our government and agency partners and to the community members in West Oakland for their collaboration in bringing this project to the construction phase,” observed Chair Bauters. “We also have great appreciation for the Federal Highway Administration, California Transportation Commission, CalSTA, Caltrans, MTC, and to Alameda County voters for funding this project so we can deliver on our promises.”

The FITS project is deploying 15 advanced and innovative demonstration technologies to improve the efficiency, safety, operations, circulation, and reliability of truck and rail access throughout the Port of Oakland and reduce the impact of cargo trucks on the West Oakland community. FITS technology innovations include the availability of real-time traveler information for truck drivers and other goods movement providers on their mobile devices, giving drivers predictability and the ability to better plan their Port visits.

“Through the hard work and dedication of civil servants at the local, regional, state, and federal levels, today, we are kicking off a long-overdue improvement to West Oakland that will not only strengthen the efficiency and economic competitiveness of our Port but also bring health, safety, and mobility benefits to our historically underserved West Oakland residents,” shared Mayor Thao. “This is a great example of the types of win-win-win solutions we can accomplish when we work together, and we are so thankful to have the support of so many regional, state, and federal partners.”



*Rendering of 7th Street
Grade Separation Project improvements*

The 7SGSE project improvements include reconstructing the more than 90-year old underpass that serves as the primary gateway for forty percent of trucks entering the Port and that Union Pacific Railroad trains rely on to pass over 7th Street. These improvements will relieve truck and vehicle congestion, increase safety and provide flexibility for seaport cargo operations. The Project also includes a shared bicycle/pedestrian pathway for public access to Middle Harbor Shoreline Park and will increase efficiency, foster sustainability and support the entire Northern California economy. Alameda CTC will manage construction of the project with engineering support from the Port of Oakland.

“We’re thrilled to celebrate the groundbreaking of the 7th Street Grade Separation East project,” said Barbara Leslie, President of the Oakland Board of Port Commissioners. “We are grateful to the Alameda County Transportation Commission and the Newsom and Biden Administrations, for investing in Oakland and the region. Along with the technology components of the Freight Intelligent Transportation Systems program, these initiatives will improve the safety and efficiency of Port operations while reducing emissions and creating better access to the shoreline for local residents.”

The FITS project technology is anticipated to be fully live this fall. The 7SGSE project is now in the construction phase, with work anticipated to begin before this fall. Funding partners for the FITS and 7SGSE projects include: Alameda CTC, the California Transportation Commission, the California State Transportation Agency, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the Port of Oakland, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Department of Homeland Security. ●



Port of Oakland harbor tours continue

The Port of Oakland **Harbor Tours** continue until October. The next scheduled 90-minute cruise is September 15, 2023 from 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm. Registration for the free tickets is on Monday, September 11, 2023 at 8 p.m. on a first come, first served basis. Please note that due to popular demand, these tickets are usually all taken within minutes. Check [here](#) for more information on how to get tickets. ●



Maritime Moments

LONGSHOREMEN UNLOADING NUTS IMPORTED FROM BRAZIL, OUTER HARBOR, 1930S. BY THE MID-1930S, THE PORT OF OAKLAND WAS A REGULAR PORT OF CALL FOR MORE THAN FORTY STEAMSHIP LINES. TRADE ROUTES EXTENDED UP AND DOWN THE COAST, ACROSS THE PACIFIC, AND THROUGH THE PANAMA CANAL TO THE GULF OF MEXICO, THE CARIBBEAN, SOUTH AMERICA, THE ATLANTIC SEABOARD, AND EUROPE. VIRTUALLY ALL THIS SHIPPING WAS CARGO RELATED. ●

INDUSTRY RESOURCE LINKS:

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

