

## Port of Oakland reaches milestone for proposed Turning Basins Widening Project

### Draft Environmental Impact Report ready for public comment

The proposed Oakland Harbor Turning Basins Widening Navigation Project has reached another important milestone with the release of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR).

The Port of Oakland will host three public meetings during the 45-day public review and comment period to collect feedback from the community.

The proposed project includes widening both turning basins to accommodate vessels up to 1,310 feet in length. The benefits of widening the turning basins include:

- Safer navigation for large vessels already calling Oakland;
- Improved waterways resulting in more efficient goods movement;
- Reduced delays and vessel wait times;
- Improved flexibility for vessels to connect to shore power; and
- Reduced total vessel emissions.

“This is another important step along our path to improving the Oakland Seaport,” said Port of Oakland Maritime Director Bryan Brandes (below). “Investing in the Port’s turning basins is essential for ensuring a cleaner future and moving goods through the Port safely and efficiently. We look forward to receiving the community’s additional feedback on the Draft EIR.” The Port has been taking in community input on the proposed project since 2020. → 03



### IN THIS ISSUE

- MILESTONE FOR PROPOSED TURNING BASINS WIDENING PROJECTS
- PORT JOINS ENVIRONMENTAL NON-PROFIT GREEN MARINE
- SEPTEMBER CARGO STATS
- LAST HARBOR TOUR
- INDUSTRY RESOURCES





## Port of Oakland joins environmental non-profit Green Marine

### Certification affirms the port's environmental achievements

Green Marine certified the Port of Oakland this month through its environmental program. The certification process supports the Port's transition to zero emissions operations. The Port doubled down on its commitment to the environment by joining Green Marine earlier this year.

Green Marine is a Canadian- and U.S.-based non-profit organization dedicated to advancing sustainable environmental practices throughout the maritime industry. Members are encouraged to adopt "concrete, measurable actions" beyond their regulatory requirements.

"We look forward to fostering a collaborative partnership with Green Marine, and its members," said Acting Director of the Port's Environmental Programs and Planning division Colleen Liang. "Achieving the rigorous standards imposed by Green Marine's program provides an additional path towards our goal of a zero emissions port."

The prestigious Green Marine certification highlights and codifies the Port's environmental achievements. The certification process includes a yearly self-assessment of the Port of Oakland's environmental performance in nine areas. The self-assessment process is followed-up by a bi-yearly independent audit.

The Port of Oakland has made it a top priority to embark on a variety of projects to further the goal of achieving a zero emissions port by 2050, while planning for responsible growth. *The Seaport Air Quality 2020 and Beyond Plan* provided a framework to guide the decision-making process for projects targeting air quality, community health concerns and climate change.

The Green Marine certification will give the Port of Oakland a competitive advantage with customers who want to partner with ports that complement their environmental vision.

More information about the Port of Oakland's zero emissions roadmap and Green Marine certification can be found here:

**Seaport Air Quality 2020 and Beyond Plan; Green Marine.** 



**"We are thrilled to have another key port from the State of California among our network of more than 50 participating North American ports. By joining our voluntary certification program, the Port of Oakland is further strengthening its commitment to sustainability by choosing to benchmark its efforts, as well as take part in the exchange of environmental knowledge and innovation available through the Green Marine network."**

Green Marine President David Bolduc



*Green Marine President David Bolduc (L) with Port Associate Environmental Planner/Scientist Brandon Reed.*

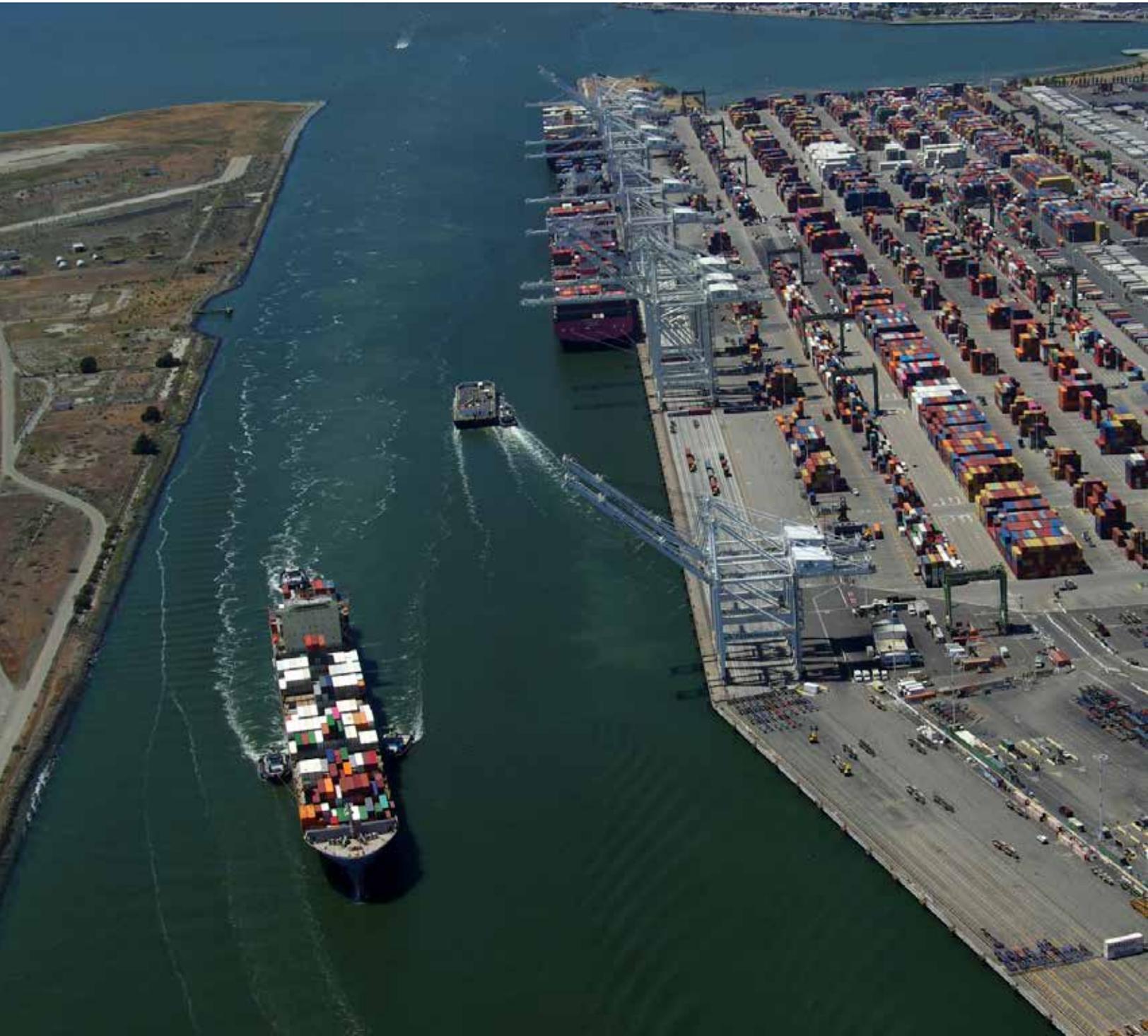
## Turning Basins Milestone *from page 1*

Public meetings are scheduled to be held on October 25, November 6, and November 7. The purpose of the meetings is to share information on the proposed project and receive comments on the Draft EIR.

Interested parties have until 5:00 p.m. on November 17 to submit comments on the Draft EIR.

To view the Draft EIR, submit comments, participate in the public meetings, or just learn more about the Port's proposed project, please visit: [www.portoakland.com/turningbasins](http://www.portoakland.com/turningbasins).

When the Final EIR is complete, the Port's Board of Commissioners will consider the EIR and determine if it was prepared in compliance with CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act). ●



## Port of Oakland September container volume holds steady

### Full exports gain over 2022 level

The Port of Oakland September container volume remains consistent with volume throughout 2023.

Full TEUs (twenty-foot containers) rose 1.2% this September compared to September 2022, registering 134,186 TEUs, versus 132,559 TEUs in September 2022. However, they have remained flat compared to August 2023.

Full exports, which jumped 9.1%, handling 59,757 TEUs in September 2023 as opposed to 54,756 TEUs in September 2022, have stayed in the range of 55,000 TEUs to 65,000 TEUs throughout 2023.

Full imports inched down 4.3%, with 74,428 TEUs transiting the Port in September 2023, in contrast to 77,803 TEUs in September 2022, but are up slightly from August 2023, which reported 72,481 TEUs passing through Port terminals.

September 2023 saw empty imports drop 22.8%, with 11,208 TEUs handled by Port operators, compared to 14,510 TEUs in September 2022. Empty exports shrank by 29.8% in September 2023, with 26,429 TEUs passing through Port facilities, compared to 37,660 TEUs in September 2022.

Shipping volumes have declined globally. In response, shipping rates have declined to very low levels and ocean carriers have begun to alter their schedules, canceling some trans-Pacific vessel sailings.

On the bright side, vessel calls continue to increase in 2023, with 744 calls, rising 17% over 2022.

“The Port of Oakland current container volume is consistent with the leveling off of global container traffic,” said Port of Oakland Maritime Director Bryan Brandes. “Vessel calls to the Port have increased this year, pointing to a slow and steady recovery from the turmoil of the past couple of years.”

Container volumes typically spike in the fourth quarter in preparation for the holiday season. However, 2023 has yet to see a noticeable increase in cargo volume. This may be



attributable to a combination of high inventory levels, retailers ordering more goods from factories in Mexico and Canada rather than Asia, and/or consumer demand slowing in the Port of Oakland’s main market--Northern California.

Link to Port of Oakland container volume data:  
**<https://www.oaklandseaport.com/performance/facts-figures/>**



## Harbor Tours season concludes

The Port's annual harbor tour season came to a close on October 13. Many regional VIPs joined community members for a voyage past the Oakland Seaport. The educational cruise detailed the many aspects of seaport operations as well as the steps we're taking to reach zero emissions. The Port thanks everyone for their participation and invites you back when we begin again in the Spring! ●



## Maritime Moments

STEAMSHIPS DOCKED AT THE OUTER HARBOR'S FOURTEENTH STREET UNIT, 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

