



## Port of Oakland joins clean energy trade mission

### California delegation explored hydrogen technology in Japan

Port of Oakland officials joined a delegation of California policymakers, decisionmakers and business executives, led by California Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis and Dee Dee Myers, Director of the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development, on a trade mission to Japan this month. The group exchanged ideas about tackling climate change, clean energy economies, and creating new investment and trade opportunities.

"We enjoyed the exchange of information, technology and best practices that will complement our efforts to create a zero-emissions port in Oakland," said Port of Oakland Executive Director Danny Wan (*above, left*).

As the Port of Oakland moves towards its goal of reducing and eliminating polluting emissions, Japan's use of hydrogen technology is of particular interest to Executive Director Wan and other Port representatives.

"More than one hundred projects are looking at zero emissions in maritime shipping worldwide," says Wan. "Nearly half of these initiatives focus on hydrogen as a low-carbon fuel source."

The week-long trip included various forums on climate collaboration and trade and investment opportunities as well as visits to the Port of Kobe hydrogen terminal, and energy innovation companies like Panasonic, Toyota and the Fujimi Waste-to-Energy Plant.

Events included the California-Japan Climate Summit, California Trade and Investment Forum, a visit to the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (AmCham), and Global Smart Energy Week exhibition. California agricultural producers, many of whom ship their products through the Port of Oakland to Japan, held a reception showcasing California-grown products. → 02



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## Clean energy trade mission *from page 1*

Japan and California have shared a long-lasting bond. The Port of Oakland and the Bay Area have long served as a gateway connecting Japan and the United States. Plus, the Port of Oakland has a sister-city relationship with the City of Fukuoka, Japan.

Japan and the State of California last year signed a Memorandum of Cooperation to address climate change and promote cooperation in trade and investment.

Japan, as a key trade partner, is the number one destination for cargo that leaves the Oakland Seaport, accounting for 17 percent of exports from the Port of Oakland.

The goal of this mission was to collaborate for building a sustainable future and strengthen business ties. ●



▲ *Port of Oakland leadership meets with officials in Japan*

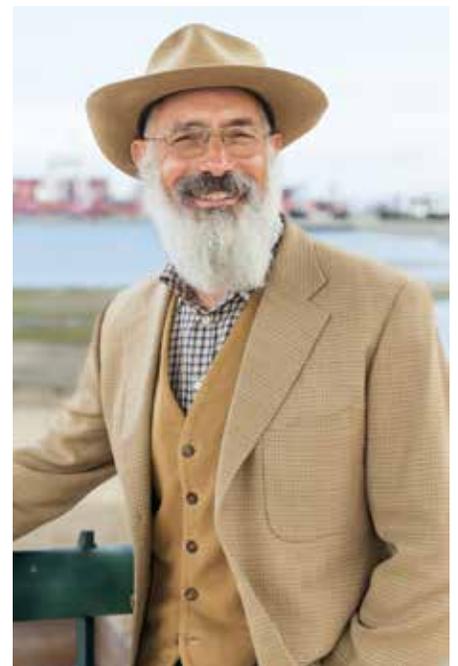
## Environmental Director Richard Sinkoff Retires

The Port of Oakland recognized Richard Sinkoff, Director of Environmental Programs & Planning (*shown below, right*), for his more than 30 years of service to the Port.

Richard's legacy is extraordinary. He leaves the Port of Oakland having helped the Port reduce pollution from Seaport activities. He has also left us with a strategic path to get to zero-emissions from operations.

Over the years, Richard and his team members have produced many outstanding accomplishments. One of the most visible is the creation of Middle Harbor Shoreline Park at the Seaport providing public access to the shore. This area was once cut off from the local community by a naval base. Now the park is open daily for everyone to enjoy.

The Port of Oakland thanks Richard for guiding his team and achieving so many of the Port's environmental goals that benefit the Port of Oakland, those who work here, and our neighbors! 



## Port officials attend TPM23

Port of Oakland officials attended the 2023 Trans Pacific Maritime Conference (TPM) in Long Beach the last week of February/first week of March. Organized by The Journal of Commerce within S&P Global Market Intelligence, TPM is considered the premier conference for the trans-Pacific and global container shipping and logistics community.

Each year TPM presents the industry's most in-depth programs delving into the most pressing challenges affecting container shippers in North America and globally.

The annual event attracts the most officials in the industry, and is a platform for a week of essential and intensive networking, negotiations, and relationship building among the multiple parties in the international container shipping supply chain: ports, shippers, carriers, forwarders, technology providers, trucking operators, railroads, terminals, and many others who participate in this market. ●

## Port of Oakland January/February container volume declined

The Port of Oakland's container volume experienced another slow month in February. Total year-to-date volume compared to this time last year fell 14.1%. Full TEUs (twenty-foot containers) dropped 23% last month, with 113,814 TEUs transiting the port, in contrast to 147,620 TEUs in February 2022.

Empty TEUs dropped 14% compared to February 2022, registering 40,023 TEUs this February versus 46,768 TEUs in February 2022.

The Port said larger economic concerns are affecting cargo volumes. The U.S. economy is still recovering from the economic fluctuations of the past couple of years. The Port of Oakland's goal is to be in a position to bounce back when the economy stabilizes and regains its footing.

Full imports fell 32% in February 2023, with 58,073 TEUs passing through the Port versus 85,286 TEUs the same month last year. This marks the lowest monthly total since March 2016. Reasons for the lackluster volume include the fact that domestic inventories remain high as retail sales in the U.S. fell in February. Also, West Coast ports lost their market share to ports on America's East and Gulf coasts.

Full exports also experienced a decline of 10.6% in February 2023, with the Port handling 55,741 TEUs compared to 62,334 TEUs in February 2022. Exports have been on the decline since 2020. The decrease was initially jump-started by tariffs imposed by the U.S. and China, and China's restrictions on recycled materials, which is Oakland's largest export. Exports continued to decline during the pandemic due to product supply chain disruptions and the scarcity of empty containers.

Total Port of Oakland TEU activity last month was 153,837. This is a decline of 20.9% compared to February 2022.

Meanwhile, the Port of Oakland's January 2023 container volume declined compared to January last year. Full TEUs dropped 14.9% compared to January 2022, with 123,915 TEUs transiting the port in January 2023, opposed to 145,564 TEUs in January 2022. The good news is that full TEUs have stabilized compared to December and November 2022 volumes, possibly indicating that volume levels may have bottomed out.

"The decline in container volume has created an opportunity for terminal operators to free up space and improve the flow of goods at Oakland," said Bryan Brandes. "Now we are ready to reposition the Port to capture new business and regain lost market share as the supply chain continues to recalibrate from the past couple of years."

Full imports decreased 20.5% from January 2022 volume. The port handled 66,637 TEUs in January 2023, compared to 83,860 TEUs in January 2022. But January 2023 imports have stabilized compared to December 2022.

Full exports declined 7.2%, recording 57,279 TEUs in January 2023 in contrast to 61,704 TEUs in January 2022. However, January 2023 exports post a similar volume to December 2022.

The decline in exports is substantially less than the decline in imports. Oakland may have the opportunity to increase its export volume later this year as the speed of cargo



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picks up and empty containers are repositioned.

Empty TEU volume has continued to grow during the last six months. Empty imports rose 45.8% in January 2023, handling 17,299 TEUs compared to 11,866 TEUs in January 2022. Empty exports rose 6.3%, registering 38,014 TEUs in January 2023 versus 35,775 TEUs in January 2022.

As containers continue to reposition throughout the network, this will correct equipment imbalances resulting from recent trade disruptions. ●

**Link to Port of Oakland container volume data:**

**<https://www.oaklandseaport.com/performance/facts-figures/>**

## INDUSTRY RESOURCE LINKS:

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

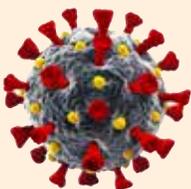


## Maritime Moments

THE **OAKLAND** WAS PLACED IN SERVICE BY THE CENTRAL PACIFIC IN 1875. TWICE REBUILT, THIS FERRYBOAT CARRIED TRANSBAY COMMUTERS FOR MORE THAN SIXTY YEARS.

*Courtesy: Oakland History Room, Oakland Public Library.*

COVID



## WORKPLACE HEALTH

- COVID-19 Latest
- Influenza (Flu)
- Vaccines

INFLUENZA

