

I OAK MARITIME NEWS

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Port of Oakland hosts congressional meeting



UNITED STATES
HOUSE of
REPRESENTATIVES

Event addressed supply chain issues

The Port of Oakland hosted a congressional supply chain stakeholder meeting October 31 in Jack London Square. The event was designed to address constituent business and trade industry stakeholder concerns about congestion and supply chain issues at the Port.

The meeting was led by Rep. Jim Costa (D-Fresno) and Rep. Mike Thompson (D-Napa) and included Rep. Barbara Lee (D-Oakland) and Rep. John Garamendi (D-Fairfield).

In addition to the Congressmembers, the forum featured federal and state government officials including Federal Maritime Commission Chairman Daniel Maffei, and representatives from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, CA Department of Food and Agriculture, CA State Transportation Agency and the Governor's Office of Business & Economic Development.

Additional attendees included a wide range of supply chain stakeholders, with an emphasis on representation from the agricultural export community.

Congressional representatives and government panelists discussed challenges faced by port congestion and ways to improve local and national supply chain issues.

"During the pandemic, international trade on the California coast was disrupted in an unprecedented way. We know how much these delays have harmed California's critical agricultural industry and those who rely on these producers," said Representative Barbara Lee (D-Oakland). "We can't stop here. We're going to continue this discussion to improve maritime backlog in the future with a conservation approach. I'm thankful to my colleagues in Congress, community leaders, agricultural producers, and the Port for their contributions to this effort, and look forward to lending federal support for a more efficient and resilient supply chain."

Federal Maritime Commission Chairman Daniel Maffei said getting empty containers into the interior of the country to service exporters is still a problem, but the situation is improving. → 02



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Congressional meeting in Oakland *from page 1*

“Congestion is down substantially here on the West Coast,” said Maffei. “We’ve expanded our audit program to promote exporters and many of the major carriers have adopted comprehensive export strategies,” he said. “Certainly, willingness to meet agricultural exporters halfway is much more prevalent in the industry now than it was two years ago.”

Representative Jim Costa (D-Fresno) stated we’re all in this together.

“We are working to enhance our supply chain security by investing in our infrastructure and making products in America,” said Representative Costa. “Today’s roundtable emphasized the work in progress to confront the supply chain crisis and improve our economy,” he said.

“We are intensely focused on restoring key ocean carrier services that our trade community relies on to ship their goods into and out of Northern California,” said Danny Wan, Port of Oakland Executive Director.

Barbara Leslie, President of the Oakland Board of Port Commissioners, said this is a group effort.

“We have built a strong foundation between the Port and our state and federal partners,” said Port Board President Leslie. “We will need to continue to expand these partnerships to meet the needs of our trade community and to deliver benefits to our local residents and community members who rely on us and are impacted by our work,” she said.

Representative Jim Costa concluded that today’s forum was important because food is a national security issue.

“Collectively we have a focus in terms of how we want to move forward. Clearly, we need to invest in our infrastructure, and there were a number of areas that were pointed out where we can make those investments, not only for the Port of Oakland but for California and therefore for our nation, to ensure that we maintain our competitive edge,” said Congressman Costa.

Prior to the meeting, the Port of Oakland hosted a tour of the Oakland Seaport, where leaders learned about Port operations. They viewed the Outer Harbor to highlight the location of the recently announced Port Infrastructure Development Program grant for \$36 million to rehabilitate and restore a portion of that site for a green container support yard. ●



Congressional forum on supply chain – Representatives left to right: Jim Costa (D-Fresno), Mike Thompson (D-Napa), Barbara Lee (D-Oakland), John Garamendi (D-Fairfield), and Federal Maritime Commission Chair Daniel Maffei.



Japanese diplomats visit Port of Oakland

Japan is top destination for exports

A delegation from the Consulate General of Japan in San Francisco visited the Port of Oakland this month to view the Seaport and discuss trade, the passenger airline market to and from Japan, and the Port's environmental projects to reach zero emissions. There is an initiative between California and Japan to work towards a Carbon Neutral Port future.

The San Francisco Bay area has long served as a gateway connecting Japan and the United States, and we share deep historical ties with Japan. The relationship between Japan and our jurisdiction continues to grow, as evidenced by the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation between Japan and the State of California this past March to address climate change and promote cooperation in trade and investment.

An important trade partner, Japan is the #1 destination for cargo that leaves the Seaport, accounting for 17% of exports from the Port of Oakland. Japan is our number ten country of origin for imports.

Top export commodities by volume:

1. Meat
2. Dry fruits and nuts / produce
3. Wine
4. Hay
5. Dairy



Top imports:

1. Appliances and machinery
2. Electronic goods
3. Chemicals
4. Auto parts
5. Wine and spirits

California and Japan share a long history of mutual exchange and cooperation, not only at economic and diplomatic levels, but also at the person-to-person level. There are 106 sister city relationships between California and Japan, including Oakland and Fukuoka City, Japan, making California the U.S. state with the largest number of Japanese sister cities. ●

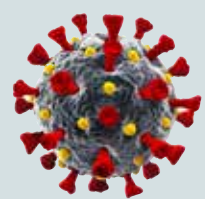


A delegation from the Consulate General of Japan in San Francisco visits with Port of Oakland officials.

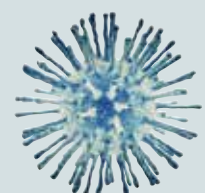
WORKPLACE HEALTH

- A 'Tripledeemic'?
- Flu, COVID or Cold?
- Vaccines

COVID



INFLUENZA



Storms, Flooding and Sea Level Defense Conference

Port of Oakland welcomes solutions to sea level rise

Port joins conference partners to address rising waters

Port officials from around the country and overseas gathered virtually this month to discuss the impacts of climate change and sea level rise, search for mitigations, and share best practices.

“The Port of Oakland as well as all California ports are literally on the frontline of mitigating the effects of sea level rise, not just on our seaport but also on our neighboring communities,” said Danny Wan, Executive Director of the Port of Oakland. The Port has nearly 20 miles of waterfront for aviation, commercial real estate and maritime activities.

Port of Oakland Executive Director Danny Wan delivered the welcome remarks at the Storms, Flooding and Sea Level Defense Conference. The event was hosted by The Propeller Club of Northern California in collaboration with the Society of American Military Engineers. In its fifth year, the conference is the brainchild of California ports, including the Ports of Oakland, San Francisco, Long Beach, and Los Angeles.



“The Port of Oakland ... on the frontline of mitigating the effects on sea level rise, not just on our seaport but also on our neighboring communities.”

Port of Oakland Executive Director Danny Wan

Participants included representatives from ports in California, Hawaii, Louisiana, Maryland, and Texas, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and private companies dedicated to delivering climate change solutions.

Project Engineer at the Port of Rotterdam, Joost de Nooijer shared the Netherlands’ strategies to combat climate change and


rising sea levels. The Dutch are industry experts in becoming climate adaptive. Ninety percent of the City of Rotterdam is below sea level, making its port particularly susceptible to the impacts of rising waters. The Port of Rotterdam is Europe’s largest port.

According to the American Association of Port Authorities, cargo activity in the U.S. generates over \$5 trillion a year in economic activity, supporting 31 million domestic jobs. These figures are from 2018 and today’s numbers are likely higher.

The Port of Oakland and its business partners support 84,000 jobs in the region, more than a million jobs across the country and an annual economic impact of \$130 billion (pre-pandemic figures).

The Port of Oakland faces unique coastal challenges to defend against storm surge and sea level rise. Here are some of its projects:

- The Port of Oakland is planning to do a new study on sea level rise (SLR) and ground water intrusion to better understand its vulnerability to future climate conditions. The Port will be releasing an RFP (Request for Proposals) this month for the study and launching it in 2023;
- The Port of Oakland completed its Oakland International Airport Perimeter Dike improvement project earlier this year, which protects our airport’s primary commercial runway. The dike crest has been designed to withstand projected storms through the year 2050;
- Also, at Oakland International Airport’s North Field, the Port has been studying its vulnerability to water intrusion. The Port has looked at more advanced modeling (2D) of the North Field to focus project improvements where they will have the greatest potential benefit to prevent flooding. The Port expects to issue its draft report on the topic, along with a list of specific improvements by the end of this year; and
- The Port of Oakland is also working with its neighboring cities to cooperate on projects, studies and funding to address flooding and sea level rise. Flood vulnerabilities may exist off Port property that could impact Port facilities.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has noted, in a special report on extremes, that climate change has influenced variables that contribute to floods. According to the IPCC report, while global warming may not induce floods directly, it magnifies many of the factors that do. 

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 LONG WHARF AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY, LOOKING WEST TO YERBA BUENA ISLAND. DEEP-WATER SAILING SHIPS PREPARE TO TAKE ON CARGO FROM RAIL CARS. ●

*Courtesy of Oakland History Room,
Oakland Public Library*

Port of Oakland October container volume up 5.9%

Loaded imports and exports make gains over last month and last year

The Port of Oakland's full imports and full exports rose compared to last month (September 2022 volumes) and compared to October 2021 volumes.

Total loaded container volume rose 5.9% compared to October 2021. The Port handled 145,868 loaded TEUs (twenty-foot containers) last month compared to 137,776 TEUs in October 2021.

Full exports jumped 4.8%, recording 66,408 TEUs in October 2022 compared to 63,338 TEUs in October 2021. Loaded exports rose 21% from September 2022, with 62,203 TEUs coming through the seaport.

"Although we anticipate that overall cargo will decline on the West Coast in the coming months, the recent uptick in volume at Oakland is welcome news, especially on the export side," said Port of Oakland Maritime Director Bryan Brandes. "The Port of Oakland remains committed to working with stakeholders to improve port operations and restore sailings."

Full imports were up 6.7% over October 2021 volume and rose 2% compared to September 2022 volume. The port handled 79,459 TEUs in October 2022, versus 74,438 TEUs in October 2021 and 77,803 TEUs in September 2022.

Despite October's gains in cargo volume, it is insufficient to reverse the declines from earlier this year. Long-term indicators still point to an overall decrease in import cargo volume. Freight rates continue to drop and American retailers report that their inventories are still higher than normal, diminishing the demand for imports.

Link [HERE](#) to Port of Oakland container volume data. ●



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EVERYONE'S PORT

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