

Future of the Port Webinar  
9.24.2020

Questions & Answers

Port Houston's 2040 Plan:

1. With the congestion on the West Coast, we are looking for service to Denver, Kansas City and further than 500 miles. What are the plans for rail service?
  - Port Houston's commercial team is actively discussing rail options with Class 1 railroads as well as integrated solutions with ocean carriers and BCO's.
2. What is the future of the rail project off 146?
  - The Rail Spur project is under construction and should be completed late 2020.
3. What are the plans for the Bayport RO-RO Terminals?
  - Bayport's RO-RO terminals will continue to serve this vital market. Over the long term, that area is slated for future container terminals.
4. Can you discuss initiatives to re-establish international intermodal between POH and DFW? What is needed from the BCO, ocean carriers and trucking community?
  - Port Houston looks forward to further support of BCOs, ocean carriers and the trucking community to help advocate with the intermodal companies in an effort to reinstating service between Houston and DFW (and beyond).
5. Beyond the Lynx customer portal, what is the port doing to provide better connectivity thru EDI/API feeds to 3rd parties (brokers, forwarders, truckers, etc..) that would reduce the amount of manual work involved in finding vsl and container data?
  - To add more value to our customers outside of using Lynx, we provide a series of API messaging that can be used to access information such as Container Availability, Booking Details, Vessel Schedules, Gate Transactions, and more. The available API calls are available to anyone interested. Our process does use the Lynx platform for API management and the calls are set and documented. Anyone interested in learning more should contact Candice Armenoff – [carmenoff@porthouston.com](mailto:carmenoff@porthouston.com)!
6. Is there a particular sustainability management framework or performance/reporting standards the Port utilizes?
  - Part of Port Houston's sustainability efforts includes being an "Environmental Leader," which is also part of our 2020 Strategic Plan. It means ensuring compliance and working beyond compliance to set leading examples in all critical areas: air, water, stormwater, waste management, energy & sustainability, land management and stakeholder communications.
    - One example of Port Houston's sustainability efforts has been work towards reducing our carbon footprint by 55% over the past 3 years through initiatives like moving our electricity sourcing to 100% renewables, focusing on hybrid-electric and electric technology, and changing facility lighting to LED's port wide.

7. Is there a long range TEU/cargo forecast in the 2040 plan?
  - The port has forecasts under three scenarios representing current expected strong growth patterns, as well as a higher and lower case, all of which can guide timing for capital investments. Our plan is to stay comfortably ahead of the demand curve with capacity additions as needed.

## Project 11

8. What improvements are planned that will benefit the legions of recreational boaters who share the Bay with commercial mariners, ships, and barges?
  - The Houston Ship Channel, the nation's busiest waterway, travels through Galveston Bay, which is a major destination for recreational and commercial activities, such as boating, ecotourism, fishing, and bird watching. While the goal of Project 11 specifically is to expand the channel, we must all continue to work together, as we have in the past, on initiatives that can enhance the benefits to all users of the bay while maintaining the economic and safety priorities of the channel.
9. Can the public take a tour of the oyster reefs and marsh wetlands?
  - These areas can be viewed by bay users, but Port Houston does not coordinate or facilitate reef and/or wetland tours. Please note, some of these areas are restricted to protect wildlife and the marine habitat.
10. How is the Port planning for flood risks from storm surge events and on mitigating emissions from increased cargo vessel and land freight traffic expected with HSC expansion?
  - Port Houston is working with Harris County Flood Control District and the City of Houston Public Works Department to support flood control initiatives area wide, and with emphasis near the port's footprint. Additionally, we cooperate with local cities such as Seabrook for drainage improvements, and we are undertaking drainage improvements along Port Road in late 2020 and into 2021.
  - Port Houston has been working towards reducing our carbon footprint by 55% over the past 3 years through initiatives like moving our electricity sourcing to 100% renewables, focusing on hybrid-electric and electric technology, and changing facility lighting to LED's port wide.
11. We have been importing fresh produce into Port Houston since 2008 (are within the top three of TEU's vol of perishable imports). Will the expansion allow for larger refer break bulk vessels? Are improvements in the infrastructure included in the plan, for expediency of processes necessary in perishables supply chain? Are any other plans in place to increase/improve perishables volume into the port?
  - A wider and safer channel that maintains two-way traffic is a benefit to all vessels that transit the Houston Ship Channel
  - Port Houston is working with the USDA to implement a continuous cold sterilization process in Houston, and private infrastructure supporting perishables is constantly being constructed.

- Please see Port Houston website for a recording of our recent Perishables Webinar.

12. Does Project 11 include green coffee imports?

- A wider and safer channel that maintains two-way traffic is a benefit to all vessels that transit the Houston Ship Channel