



**For immediate release  
August 19, 2021**

**HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL PROJECT PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT  
*SIGNED DOCUMENT DETAILS TERMS TO START BILLION-DOLLAR DREDGING WORK***



Photo Caption: Port Houston Executive Director Roger Guenther addresses attendees at the formal presentation of the Project Partnership Agreement between the Port of Houston Authority and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to widen and deepen the Houston Ship Channel.

**HOUSTON** –A significant milestone in the history of the Houston Ship Channel was recognized today with the formal presentation of the Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Port of Houston Authority (Port Houston) for the channel's billion-dollar widening and deepening program, Project 11.

The PPA is the official document committing Port Houston to the responsibilities of the project as the local non-federal sponsor. It details the terms of the channel infrastructure expansion, and most significantly, permits the start of dredging the federal waterway. Project 11 is the 11th major improvement of the channel in its more than 100-year history.

"Our port serves as the anchor for our Texas region," said Port Houston Executive Director Roger Guenther. "It is a critical step to provide a wider, deeper channel that maintains two-way vessel traffic to more safely and efficiently deliver everyday goods and petrochemical products to and from the region. This expansion project will help us continue to lead as the top port in the nation, supporting over 3.2 million U.S. jobs – including more than 1.35 million Texas jobs – and bringing \$802 billion in economic value to the nation."



Port Houston Executive Director Roger Guenther presents the signed Project Partnership Agreement to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Galveston District Col. Timothy Vail.

U.S. House Representatives Congressmen Kevin Brady, Brian Babin, Al Green, and Jodey Arrington provided remarks illuminating this milestone's importance at today's historic event. Representatives from U.S. Senators John Cornyn and Ted Cruz's offices expressed accolades on their behalf.

The offices of U.S. House Representatives Congresswomen Sheila Jackson Lee, Sylvia Garcia, Lizzie Fletcher, and Congressman Dan Crenshaw were present along with USACE and Port Houston staff.

The 52-mile-long Houston Ship Channel is a vital economic engine for the Houston region, the state of Texas, and the U.S. Last year, the USACE ranked it as the busiest port in the nation – the channel handles as much vessel traffic as the three largest U.S. ports combined. Once widened and deepened, the waterway will continue to help support and benefit more than 200 private and public facilities alongside it.

Project 11's first dredge contract is expected to be awarded as early as this October.



From left: Port Houston Executive Director Roger Guenther; USACE Galveston District Col. Timothy Vail; Port Houston Commissioner Clyde Fitzgerald; Congressman Brian Babin; USACE Galv. District Deputy District Engineer Byron Williams (green shirt); Congressman Jodey Arrington (back row green tie); Congressman Kevin Brady; Congressman Al Green (wearing mask); Port Houston Commissioner Roy Mease

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**About Port Houston**

For more than 100 years, Port Houston has owned and operated the public wharves and terminals along the Houston Ship Channel, including the area's largest breakbulk facility and two of the most efficient and fastest-growing container terminals in the country. Port Houston is the advocate and a strategic leader for the Channel. The Houston Ship Channel complex and its more than 200 public and private terminals, collectively known as the Port of Houston, is the nation's largest port for waterborne tonnage and an essential economic engine for the Houston region, the state of Texas, and the U.S. The Port of Houston supports the creation of nearly 1.35 million jobs in Texas and 3.2 million jobs nationwide, and economic activity totaling \$339 billion in Texas – 20.6 percent of Texas' total gross domestic product (GDP) – and \$801.9 billion in economic impact across the nation. For more information, visit the website at [www.PortHouston.com](http://www.PortHouston.com).