

## PortTalk: A Maritime Collaboration

Through PortTalk, the Maritime Administration is engaging ports, State DOTs, Metropolitan Planning Organizations and other stakeholders in a planning process to improve port freight efficiencies, enable critical port infrastructure projects and enhance global economic competitiveness.

## Port Planning & Investment Toolkit

Successful port infrastructure projects often require investment-grade plans backed by both public and private stakeholders. To help port craft those plans, the Maritime Administration and the American Association of Port Authorities have partnered to develop the Port Planning & Investment Toolkit. The first module in the toolkit detailing project funding strategies will be available on the StrongPorts site.

## TIGER\* Planning Grants

The 2014 round of TIGER Grants includes Planning Grants, and ports can use these funds in the preparation or design of surface transportation projects. These can include environmental analysis, feasibility studies and other pre-construction activities. Planning Grant recipients will be able to utilize the Port Planning & Investment Toolkit to develop investment-grade port project plans.

## TIGER\* Capital Grants

The TIGER Discretionary Grant program provides a unique opportunity for U.S. DOT to invest in transportation projects that achieve critical national objectives. Congress has dedicated more than \$4.2 billion to the program, and over \$500 million has been awarded to port infrastructure projects through the first six rounds of TIGER Grants.

\* Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER)

## Port Conveyance Program

The Port Conveyance Program creates public-private partnerships by providing no-cost transfers of surplus Federal real properties for the development of port related facilities. As of 2014, over 2,700 acres have been conveyed to eligible entities to expand the Nation's Marine Transportation System by increasing port capacity and infrastructure, improving goods movement and meeting future national defense needs.

## Environmental Solutions

The Maritime Environment and Technology Assistance Initiative fosters collaborative projects with maritime industry stakeholders, academia, and Federal and state agencies to address emerging environmental challenges such as air pollution, non-indigenous aquatic species and other vessel discharges. Other focus areas for the initiative include marine use of alternative fuels and technologies (e.g., liquefied natural gas, fuel cells and biofuels), as well as approaches for improving energy efficiency and conservation in the maritime sector.

## About Us

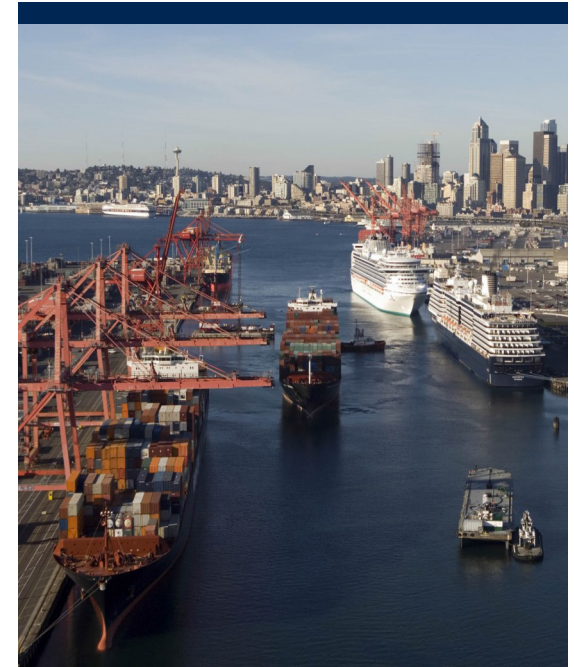
The Maritime Administration has been helping to strengthen and improve the marine industry since 1950. Now the StrongPorts team is dedicated to helping America's ports meet tomorrow's needs.

## Contact Us

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U.S. Department of Transportation  
**Maritime Administration**



*Photo compliments of Port of Seattle*



**StrongPorts**<sup>SM</sup>

**Building partnerships to  
meet tomorrow's needs.**

[www.StrongPorts.gov](http://www.StrongPorts.gov)

StrongPorts is designed to deliver assistance to all U.S. ports and their communities. The StrongPorts framework provides initiatives and activities aligned with the three phases of project development – **Planning and Engagement, Finance and Project Support**. Program participation is voluntary.



## Planning and Engagement

The Maritime Administration is encouraging ports to develop investment-grade plans detailing the transportation system benefits, economic opportunities and positive environmental impacts of the projects to the ports and their greater communities. StrongPorts Program services to assist in these planning efforts include:

- PortTalk Collaborations
- Port Planning & Investment Toolkit
- Innovative Environmental Solutions
- Delivery of Federal services
- Stakeholder outreach

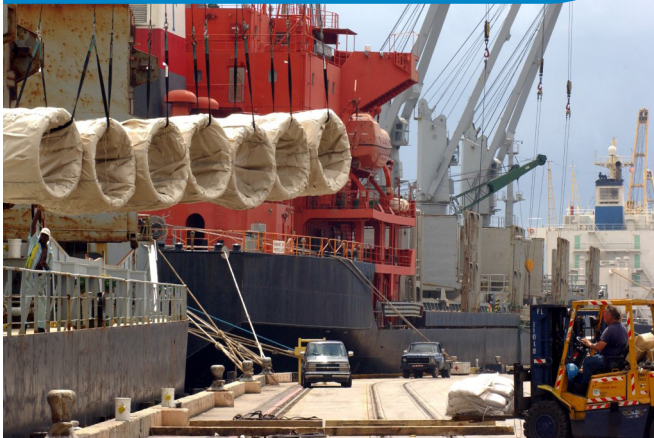


Photo compliments of Port of New Orleans

U.S. maritime ports are critical links in the U.S. domestic and international trade supply-chain, serving as the hubs where cargoes are transferred between ocean going vessels, barges, trucks, trains and pipelines. The StrongPorts Program supports efforts to improve infrastructure in ports and intermodal connectors throughout the United States and ensure they are capable of meeting our future freight transportation needs.



## Finance

Many port modernization projects require multi-source financing that may include port, Federal, State, local and private funding. In addition to overseeing the port-related TIGER Grants, the Maritime Administration can help ports identify funding sources.

Services include:

- Port Infrastructure Fund
- Port Conveyance Program
- Identifying Federal, State and local funding sources



## Project Support

Many port modernization projects require the participation of numerous stakeholders from Federal, State and local governments alongside the private sector. Projects often involve activities requiring collaboration among multiple government agencies to address environmental review, risk mitigation and permitting. In some cases, the Maritime Administration can use its unique authority relating to the improvement of port facilities to help resolve, simplify or overcome these complex challenges.

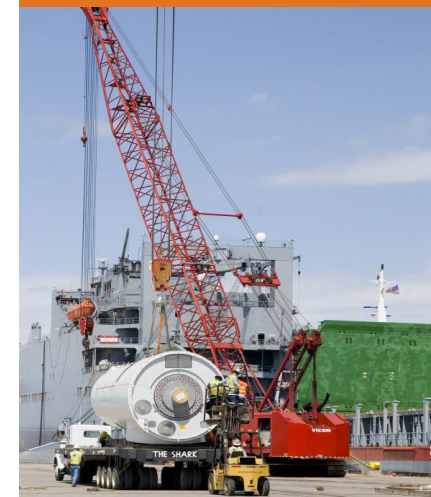


Photo compliments of Port of Corpus Christi

For more information on any of these areas, please call 202-366-PORT [7678] or email [StrongPorts@dot.gov](mailto:StrongPorts@dot.gov).