



NEWS RELEASE

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Port of Palm Beach Celebrates Completion of \$30 Million Infrastructure Development Program

RIVIERA BEACH, Fla. — The Port of Palm Beach today celebrated the completion of its \$30 million Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) with a ribbon cutting ceremony highlighting major upgrades at the Port.

The transformative project included a full redesign and automation of the Port’s main entrance, expanded truck lanes to improve traffic flow, installation of radiation portal monitors for enhanced security, and the complete rehabilitation of 6.5 miles of on-port rail track. The Port of Palm Beach is only one of two seaports in Florida with on-dock rail service.



“This project represents a major investment in efficiency, safety, and the long-term strength of our Port,” said Executive Director Michael Meekins. “By modernizing our gate and rail systems, we are reducing truck wait times by 50%, lowering emissions, and ensuring that the Port of Palm Beach remains competitive in a rapidly evolving global supply chain.”



These improvements extend far beyond the Port’s gates. It reinforces the Port’s role as a powerful economic engine, driving jobs, supporting local businesses, and fueling commerce throughout Palm Beach County and beyond.

“Tropical Shipping has been operating at the Port of Palm Beach for more than 60 years,” said Tim Martin, Tropical Shipping’s President and CEO. “The Port of Palm Beach has been a good partner in our expansion of our service to the Caribbean and there is no doubt this “transformative” project will add a higher level of safety and security for the users of the Port. We congratulate the Port of Palm Beach and express our appreciation to the United States Maritime Administration (MARAD) for financing this grant request. The Port is already a well-rated Port, and these improvements will take us to a first-class level port facility.”

Board Chairman Blair Ciklin, who is the longest serving Commissioner on the Board, reflected on the Port’s evolution. “I am one of the lucky ones who has had a front-row seat to the Port’s remarkable evolution. What was once a smaller operation, has transformed into a modern, high-performing seaport that continues to improve efficiency, increase revenue, and strengthen partnerships.”

The Port Infrastructure Development Program was supported through strategic partnerships with the Florida Department of Transportation and the United States Maritime Administration.

“The Port of Palm Beach’s completion of a Port Infrastructure Development Program grant six months ahead of schedule, reflects strong partnerships & dedication,” said Sang H. Yi, Deputy Administrator of the Maritime Administration at the U.S. Department of Transportation. “The U.S. Maritime Administration is proud to support this investment, which advances modernization, improves efficiency and safety, and creates stronger supply chains while supporting jobs.”

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About Port of Palm Beach

Located in Riviera Beach, the Port of Palm Beach is a full-service, diversified port, offering cruise and cargo services to more than 30 onsite tenants and users. At 165 acres, the Port's efficiency is unparalleled, processing more than \$12 billion in commodities, 2.8 million tons of cargo, and more than 300,000 cruise passengers annually. As one of the largest employers in Palm Beach County, the Port of Palm Beach and its tenants employ more than 3,800 people. Through the contribution of more than \$185 million in business revenue and \$17.5 million in tenant-contributed state and local annual tax revenue, the Port of Palm Beach is a large economic engine in South Florida. The Port of Palm Beach District has not levied property taxes since 1975. For more information, visit www.portofpalmbeach.com.

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