



- Immediate Release -

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The Port's La Quinta Ship Channel Extension Project Gets Funded

“U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Releases Work Plan for Fiscal 2011 Civil Works Appropriation”

Corpus Christi, TX – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) announced today \$58.477 million in funding for the Port's La Quinta Channel extension project as part of its 2011 work plan for the Army Civil Works program. *“This is an important achievement for the Port. The extension of the La Quinta Channel is a major step forward towards the development of the La Quinta Trade Gateway Multipurpose facility, one of the most important diversification projects of the Port,”* said Mike Carrell, Port Commission Chairman.

“The efforts of our U.S. Senators Kay Bailey Hutchison and John Cornyn along with our new Congressman Blake Farenthold and Congressman Henry Cuellar to secure US Army COE funding for the Port of Corpus Christi's La Quinta Channel extension is a sign of their commitment to South Texas. They realize the economic benefits the project will bring to the region and Texas,” said John LaRue, Executive Director. *“In addition, the USACE has worked closely with the port to ensure adequate funding to support our efforts to increase U.S. exports.”*

Other listings of the amounts provided to various programs, projects and activities in the FY11 Civil Works work plan can be found at: http://www.usace.army.mil/CECW/PID/Documents/exe_guide/fy11wp_construction.pdf

Project to Extend La Quinta Ship Channel

Corpus Christi Ship Channel - Channel Improvement Project
(Navigation and Ecosystem Restoration Project)

Project Background:

The Port of Corpus Christi Authority (PCCA), currently the fifth largest port in the United States in terms of total tonnage traded, is seeking needed channel improvements to the Corpus Christi Ship Channel (CCSC) system. The project

for navigation and ecosystem restoration, Corpus Christi Ship Channel, Texas (Project), was authorized by Section 1001(40) of WRDA 2007. The Project includes the following navigation and ecosystem restoration elements:

- **Extending La Quinta Ship Channel approximately 1.4 miles at -41' MLT.**
- **Constructing ecosystem restoration features to protect endangered species, wetlands and seagrass.**

La Quinta Channel Extension:

Extending the La Quinta Ship Channel will allow benefits to be achieved while enhancing the economy of the region by providing deep channel access to the Port's proposed multipurpose/container facility. The Ecosystem Restoration component to be constructed near Ingleside-on-Bay will consist of an offshore rock breakwater and shore protection and will protect and enhance approximately 40 acres of sea grass habitat. In addition, the improvements include the construction of approximately 200 acres of shallow water habitat created by the beneficial use of dredged material.

Construction contracts for the La Quinta Channel Extension and the Ecosystem Restoration will be awarded before the end of the FY 11, in September 2011. The features are projected to cost \$74 million, with a cost share of with approximately \$15 million by the Port and \$59 million by the Federal government. The initial phase of terminal construction and operations will contribute to job creation and economic recovery to our region. The Port's landside associated project will create thousands of jobs. This navigation improvement and associated development would provide some relief for the thousands of jobs affected by the base closure at Naval Station Ingleside, and generate potentially billions in business revenue. Extending La Quinta will provide support to the development at La Quinta Terminal as well as TPCO American Corp. Steel Pipe mill in Gregory, Texas, the Cheniere Energy's proposed gas processing plant, and the Gulf Cotton Compress Coop.

La Quinta Trade Gateway Terminal (Project) is a major component of the Port of Corpus Christi Authority's (Port) long-term development plan. Located on a 1,100-acre greenfield site on the north side of Corpus Christi Bay, when completed, this fully permitted project will provide a state-of-the-art multi-purpose dock and container facility. Project features consist of the Federal extension of the 45' deep La Quinta Ship Channel, construction of a 3800' long, three (3) berth ship dock with nine ship-to-shore cranes, 180 acres of container/cargo storage yard, an intermodal rail yard, and over 400 acres for on-site distribution and warehouse centers. The facility will have the capacity to handle approx. 1 million TEUs annually. The Project is sited adjacent to US 181/IH 37 and is currently served by on-site Class 1 rail.

About Port Corpus Christi

The primary economic engine of the Coastal Bend, Port Corpus Christi is one of the 10 largest ports in the United States in total tonnage. The Port's mission statement is to "serve as a regional economic development catalyst while protecting and enhancing its existing industrial base and simultaneously working to diversify its international maritime cargo business." Strategically located on the western Gulf of Mexico, with a straight, 45' deep channel, the Port provides quick access to the Gulf and the entire United States inland waterway system. The Port delivers outstanding access to overland

transportation with on-site and direct connections to three Class-1 railroads and uncongested interstate and state highways. The Port is protected by a state-of-the-art security department and an award-winning Environmental Management System. With an outstanding management and operations staff, Port Corpus Christi is clearly *“More Than You Can See.”*

NOTE:BE THE FIRST TO KNOW! *Be a mover and a shaker! Keep your finger on the pulse of the economic engine of South Texas, Port Corpus Christi! Get first-hand news about exciting new projects! Be the first to know! Sign up for our e-newsletters and press releases today.*

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