

Port of Houston Authority Barbours Cut Terminal Container Wharf



Barbours Cut Container Terminal at the Port of Houston Authority is part of a major national gateway for trade and a strategic economic asset for the State of Texas, which is experiencing some of the fastest growth in trade in the nation. This freight project will provide: significant economic benefits for the nation, state, and region; operational efficiencies and enhanced connectivity for

multimodal transportation; safety improvements; and environmental benefits. The total estimated cost of the project is \$84,151,725 enabled by federal funds of \$21,336,000, with a local cost share of \$62,815,725. The Port is requesting TxDOT's support for the \$62,815,725.

The Port of Houston Authority's ("Port Authority") Barbours Cut Terminal, a premier intermodal facility on the U.S. Gulf Coast, was designed to optimize productivity by providing a fast turnaround for container and cargo vessels. The original terminal design was not intended to process the amount or weight of the freight currently being handled. The wharves were not designed to receive Post-Panamax vessels. The strengthening provided via this project will allow for efficiency of vessel travel and mooring time, while increasing the longevity and safety of the wharves. Restoration and upgrade are needed to handle the current and future demand of cargo calling at Barbours Cut Terminal.

This project merits approval for a grant award because it demonstrates:

- **Economic Impact:** Port Authority-related businesses contribute **1,350,695** jobs throughout Texas, up from 1,174,567 million jobs cited in a 2014 study. The Port Authority is an economic engine for the nation, state, and region. Activity at the Port Authority sustains 3 million U.S. jobs, provides \$802 billion in economic value, and generates \$38 billion in federal, state, and local tax revenue. The Port Authority is a critical resource that produces jobs and economic prosperity for the state and local economy. Throughout its history, whenever the Port Authority has thrived, the Houston area has thrived. The project supports the community of clients who ship to and from the Port Authority's container terminals. **Operational Impact:** Operational efficiencies in reduction of ship delay by strengthening 1,333 linear feet of wharf results in \$61,115,574 (Undiscounted) in efficiency benefits.
- **Enhances Connectivity:** The wharf connects the water side and roadside of the State's multimodal transportation system.
- **Safety and Security:** This project will improve the Port's resiliency by reconstructing the wharf which was initially constructed between 1975 and 1985. Cargo crossing the terminal is already reduced due to its weight limits to ensure the movement is safe to customers and employees.
- **Other:** Reduction of emissions by strengthening 1,333 linear feet of wharf for processing containers totals \$108,751,204 in undiscounted emission reduction benefits. This includes 122,621 short tons of CO₂.