Update on EPA’s Ports Initiative

Army Corps “Principal Ports” and EPA Regions
Overview of EPA’s Ports Initiative

Through EPA tools and assistance in the five program areas, we are accelerating adoption of:

- **Clean air planning practices** (emissions inventories, clean air plans, community engagement) that inform strategic clean air investments

- **Clean technologies and other strategies**
Helping ports capitalize on funding for clean technologies

• EPA Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) Grants
  • Priority for port and other goods movement projects.
  • Extra points for inventories, clean air plans, community engagement.
  • Next RFA expected in December

• Searchable table of cross-government funding opportunities
• Tips for successful grant applications
  [link](www.epa.gov/ports-initiative/funding-opportunities-ports-and-near-port-communities)
Upcoming EPA Technical Resources

**Update to port inventory guidance** (published in 2009) to reflect new methods and emissions factors
Public review draft target date: Dec 2019

**Assessment of fuel cell applications at ports**

**Factsheets on operational strategies** that can reduce emissions and increase efficiency such as vessel speed reduction and gate management

**Best practices for metrics and indicators** that ports can use to measure, evaluate and set goals to improve air quality and community engagement
Creating a knowledge clearinghouse

EPA’s Ports Initiative website and newsletter sign-up:
www.epa.gov/ports-initiative

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Army Corps “Principal Ports” and EPA Regions

Communications
Ports Initiative Elements

**Funding**
Helping Ports Capitalize on Funding for Clean Technologies

**Technical Resources**
Providing Tools to Help Identify Smart Infrastructure Investments

**Collaboration**
Promoting Port-Community Collaboration for Effective Planning

**Coordination**
Increasing Efficiency in Federal Government and Port Operations

**Communications**
Creating a Knowledge Clearinghouse
Stakeholder Feedback

• Near-port communities seek better access to ports’ decision-making process

• Communities seek transparency, user friendly/timely data, and resources to improve conditions

• Communities want access to operational data and welcome opportunities to expand their knowledge about freight transport and port facilities

• Federal agencies should revisit guidance documents on community engagement

• Feedback from industry about communities: Communities’ primary air quality concerns are outside of port’s control; communities don’t understand port operations
Near-port Community Capacity Building Project

Purpose & Objectives

• To provide stakeholders with information and a process to collaboratively develop solutions for environmental, health and related community-driven concerns associated with port-related activities

• To develop and implement capacity-building resource tools to equip/empower communities for effective decision-making engagement with port-related entities
Promoting community-port collaboration for effective planning

• EPA recently completed pilot projects where we convened stakeholder dialogues, delivered technical assistance, and tested three draft tools.
  • Pilot locations: Savannah, GA; New Orleans, LA; Seattle, WA; and Providence, RI
  • On-site activities
    • Site visits
    • Putting the Toolkit into practice
    • Port tours
    • Community tours
    • Specialized training
    • Stakeholder dialogues
    • Action plan development

• Now updating tools and finalizing other resource materials from pilots (e.g. case studies, training modules).
Collaboratively-developed Capacity Building Tools

**Draft Ports Primer for Communities: An Overview of Ports Planning and Operations to Support Community Participation**

An interactive tool and reference document that characterizes the port industry sector including environmental and community health impacts associated with port activities.

**Draft Community Action Roadmap: Empowering Near-Port Communities**

An implementation companion for the Ports Primer for Communities that provides a step-by-step process for building capacity and preparing community stakeholders.

**Draft Environmental Justice (EJ) Primer for Ports: The Good Neighbor Guide to Building Partnerships and Social Equity with Communities**

Designed to inform the port industry sector of the perspectives, priorities, and challenges often unique to communities with EJ concerns.

In addition to orienting the port sector about EJ considerations this resource is structured to provide step-by-step guidance to improve the effectiveness of port and community engagement in addressing concerns of impacted residential communities.

2019 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Draft
Ports Primer for Communities:
An Overview of Ports Planning and Operations to Support Community Participation

An interactive tool and reference document that characterizes the port industry sector including environmental and community health impacts associated with port activities

Draft Ports Primer for Communities (PDF)

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An implementation companion for the Ports Primer that provides a step-by-step process for building capacity and preparing community stakeholders to engage nearby port facilities and influence decision-making on issues of community interest.
Prioritize Goals and Concerns.
Identify and prioritize goals and concerns that are motivating community leaders to engage with the Port.

Identify Levers for Change.
Identify port governance structure and key regulatory agencies. Identify upcoming planning processes, decision documents and other opportunities for community influence.

Build Relationships.
Identify key community stakeholders and resource partners. Conduct outreach and build relationships. Share information, and solicit input and feedback.

Develop an Action Plan.
Evaluate methods of engagement and select the most effective approach (may select more than one).

Make Your Case.
Gather information that supports community concerns and goals. Implement selected strategy.

Build Momentum for Change.
Evaluate the results of community efforts, and share these with the public. Celebrate successes. Identify next steps to build community influence.
Draft

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Good Neighbor Guide Steps

**Step 1: Assess Your Community Engagement Approach**
Develop a strong policy foundation reflecting your port’s commitment to meaningfully engage the near-port community in decisions and strive for solutions that improve their quality of life.

**Step 2: Build Relationships**
Assess the nature of your port’s relationships with the broad spectrum of stakeholders and begin building trust and connections with near-port community organizations and leadership.

**Step 3: Gather Community Concerns and Goals**
Engage the near-port community to gather current community goals and concerns, even those that may seem beyond current port jurisdiction.

**Step 4: Identify Levers for Change**
Identify upcoming plans and projects at the port as well as related public, private, and non-profit agencies to identify opportunities to involve the near-port community and address community goals.

**Step 5: Develop a Good Neighbor Strategic Plan**
Work in partnership with the community to document how and when the port and related agencies plan to engage the near-port community and address priority concerns over the next 3-5 years.

**Step 6: Act, Measure and Sustain Progress**
Collaborate on an early-win project, maintain momentum with consistent action and communication, formalize community partnerships and share progress regularly.
Outcomes and Lessons

• A series of social equity advancements in Seattle:
  • Landmark contractual agreement which demonstrates valuing community expertise via compensation to community partners for engagement activities
  • Establishment of a Community-based External Advisory Committee to participate in a port executive hiring decision
  • Pilot project has formally transitioned into a long-standing port program. Through official channels the Port of Seattle Commissioners established support for the Duwamish Valley Community Equity Program.

• An Air Quality Improvement Action Plan for near-port communities in Savannah.
• Improvements to neighborhood properties affected by port asset management and maintenance practices; strengthened partnerships and established communication channels with nearby residents in New Orleans

• Establishment of a Collaborative Working Group composed of port businesses, terminal operators, city & state government, community organizations and others which meets regularly to collaboratively determine objectives and prioritize investments to improve environmental performance and community conditions in Providence.
Implementation & Follow-on

Updated Capacity Building Toolkit, process guidance, training modules and additional resource materials are being prepared for web accessibility

EPA continuing support for implementation of stakeholder-determined plans resulting from pilot activities

- Recent Air Quality Community Monitoring Workshop – Savannah

EPA building/expanding internal capacity for supporting additional stakeholder engagement activities for near-port communities, ports, and other freight transport entities

EPA exploring opportunities to advance the equity conversation among a variety of institutions, organizations, and businesses
EPA Regions 9 & 10: AK, AZ, CA, HI, ID, NV, OR, WA, Pacific Islands & 419 Native Tribes
1) Public-private partnerships to reduce diesel emissions
2) Support technology advancements and deployments to increase efficiency and economic growth
3) Provide technical assistance and EPA grant funding to deploy cleaner vehicles and equipment

*Picture: Pre-1980 school bus exhaust*
Port-related WCC DERA awards

• FY 2019:
  • Hybrid Rubber-Tired Gantry Crane Replacements, Port of Long Beach, $1.5M

• FY 2018:
  • Tugboat Engine Replacements and Non-Road Equipment Replacement, Port of Los Angeles, $279,750
  • Tier 4 Locomotive Replacement at the Port of Long Beach, South Coast AQMD, $719,500
  • Low NOx Truck Replacements in Southern California, South Coast AQMD, $1,601,523
  • The Columbia Corridor Association – Diesel-Powered Truck Replacement Program, $576,419
Targeted Airshed Grant program

A competitive grant program to reduce air pollution in the top 5 nonattainment areas throughout the nation for: 8-hour average ozone (based on the 2015 8-hour standard); 24-hour PM2.5 and annual average PM2.5.
R9 Ports Initiative activity – CAAP Case Study

• A case study of the San Pedro Bay Ports’ (POLA + POLB) Clean Air Action Plan (CAAP)

• History, key aspects of the plan, community-port relationship

• To be released early 2020