



# American Association of Port Authorities

Lessons Learned in Port Real Estate





### Overview

Background on Port of Cleveland

Non-core assets and opportunities

Port-related assets and associated challenges Results of a real estate focused strategy

Future offerings

# Background on Port of Cleveland

- Created in 1968 by ORC 4582
  - Broad powers
- 9 Board Members
  - 6 by Mayor of City of Cleveland
  - 3 by County Executive
- Landlord model



- Business Lines
  - Traditional Port operations
    - Highly volatile
  - Regional Finance Authority
    - Difficult to predict
  - Strategic real estate acquisitions
  - Harbor infrastructure manager



# Maritime Holdings

- 150 Acres ofWaterfront Property
  - 37 lease from City of Cleveland
  - Remainder owned by POC
- 350,000 sq feet of warehousing space

- 4 main terminal operators
  - Ore/Cement
    - Long-term concessions
  - Steel/Project cargo
    - Renewed annually



# **Great Lakes Dynamics**

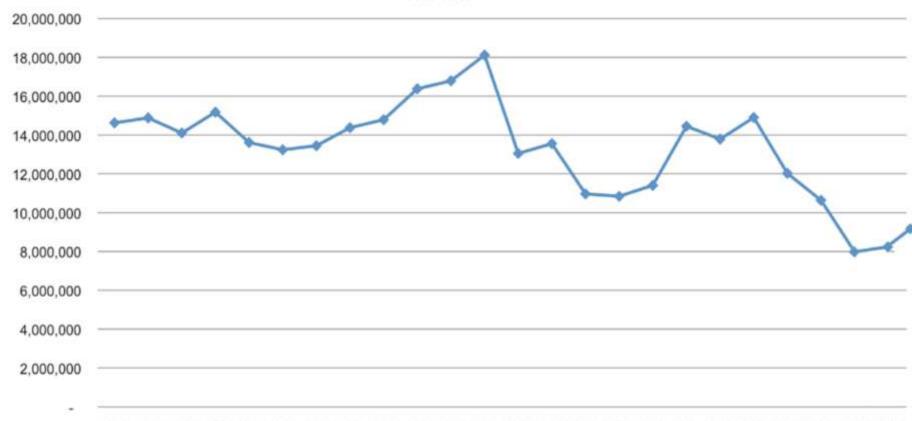
- Few players on the Lakes
- Little new investment
  - Ballast water
  - Invasive species
  - Dredging
- Midwest economic growth stagnant

- High property taxes
  - Leases > 1 yearrequire property taxes
- 2007 shift to more cargo dependent lease model
- Continued land use pressures

## Historical Tonnages

#### **Cleveland Harbor Tonnages**

1987-2009

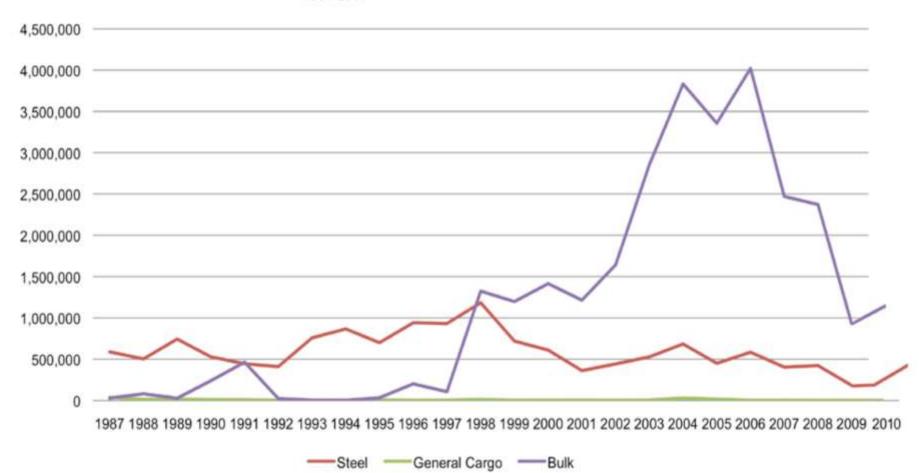


1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010

## Historical Tonnages

#### **CCCPA Historical Tonnages**

1987-2009



### Great Recession - Tenant 1

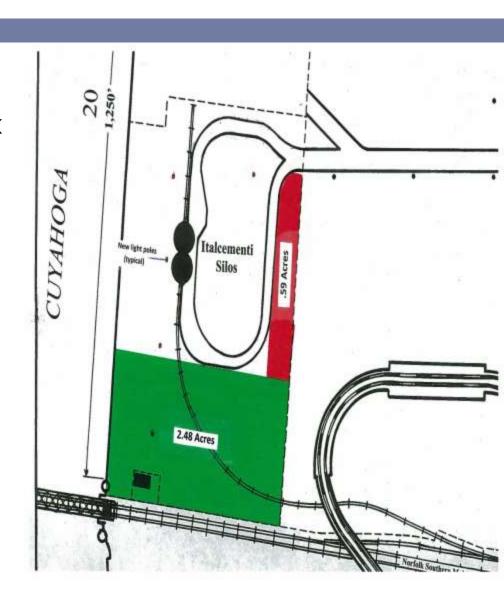
- ArcelorMittal idledCleveland plant
  - Over 1/3 of all harbor tonnage
- Lease was 75%
  dependent on inbound iron ore
- Associated debt was VRDB and interest shot up to over 10%

#### Solution:

- Changed billing to outbound vs. inbound cargo for tenant cash flow and 1 time inventory adjustment
- Replaced underlying LOC to save on interest costs

### Great Recession – Tenant 2

- Cement maker
- Property taxes > \$180kfor 7 acres
- No demand for additional silos
- Solution:
  - Port reclaimed 47% of property for 30% rent reduction
  - Removed clause req. add'l investment



### Great Recession – Tenants 3 and 4

- Both under year-toyear arrangements
  - Each received 25%base rental reductions
  - Port agreed to make additional investments

- Summary of Adjustments
  - Lease revenues down25%
  - Costs were up
    - Security
    - Health care
    - Interest costs
  - Operating loss = \$3.7M (highest ever)

### Now what?

- Financial position had rapidly deteriorated
- Outlook negative
  - Highly uncertain regulatory environment
- Financing program rating downgraded, then pulled



# Chancellor University

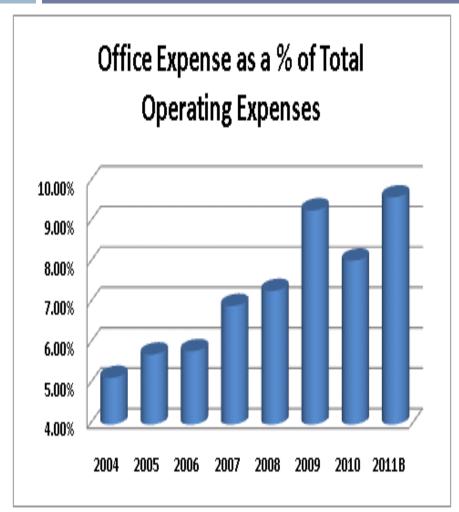






- 41,230 sq ft educational facilty
- Formerly Myers University
- Received asset in exchange for extinguishing a \$2.25M obligation
  - \$500k in cash
  - \$250k in a note
- Leased to occupant for 1 year, then later to Charter school for 5-years
  - Zero vacancy, triple net lease
  - High ROA, IRR

# Office Space





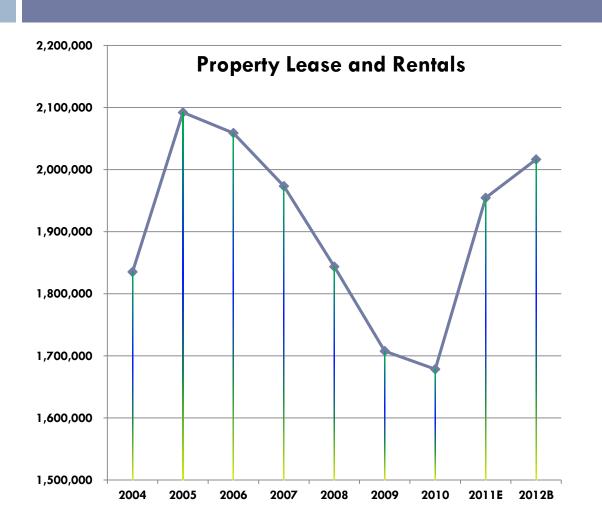
# Office Space

- □ Purchase Price: \$3,050,000
- □ NPV of Savings: \$883,057
- Average Annual Savings: \$270,000
  - No Rental, Meeting or Parking Expenses
  - Assumes alternative rentals are 22% less than today
- □ IRR: 8.01%; Average ROA: 8.69%
- Reduces Operating Loss and reliance on public dollars





### Financial Results



- 2009OperatingLoss =(\$3.7M)
- 2012
  Operating
  Loss =
  (\$0.675)

### Lessons Learned

- Mixture of base rental and throughput base structures best
  - Match to volatility of cargo type
- Legal counsel is critical
- Underlying debt structure is relevant
  - While leases went down, swap payments went up!

- Real estate is opportunistic, even off the docks
- Niche ports must adapt

