

America's Marine Highway Program Development and Funding

Port of Hueneme, Oxnard Harbor District

MEDC/AMERICA'S MARINE HIGHWAY WORK GROUP
Dona Toteva Lacayo, Port of Hueneme, Oxnard Harbor District
333 Ponoma Street, P.O. Box 608 - Port Hueneme, CA 93044-0608
Phone 805.488.3677 x2231- email DLacayo@portofhueneme.org

February 20, 2015 – Volume 1/2015

AMERICA'S MARINE HIGHWAY (AMH) as cited in MARAD's April 2011 Report to Congress represent a viable and environmentally sustainable transportation option that reduces emissions, requires less new infrastructure, and generates significant fuel savings, economic development and job creation. The **AMH** consists of more than 25,000 miles of inland, intracoastal and coastal waterways. Policymakers need to re-focus on the underutilized transportation capacity of **AMH** for a sustainable national transportation system.



MARAD Highway Program Call for Projects Webinar, December 2014

http://www.marad.dot.gov/documents/AMH_Webinar_Presentation.pdf.pdf

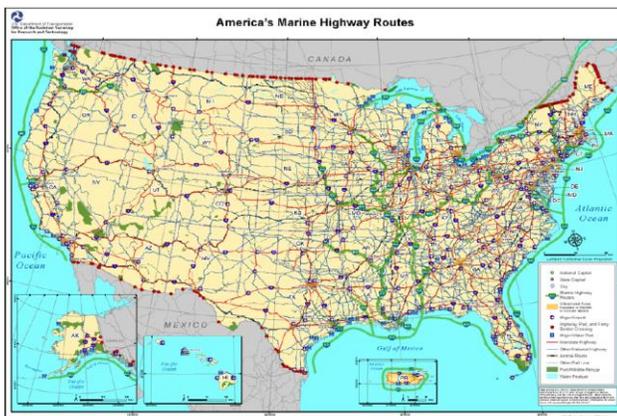
MARAD - Open Season announced in June for Marine Highway Projects, June 05, 2014

The Maritime Administration (MARAD) announced in the Federal Register this week (Vol. 79, No. 105 / Monday, June 2, 2014) Open Season on Marine Highway Projects. Applications were accepted through June 30 and project review will complete by September 30 (reviews pending). MARAD's Notice states that the purpose of the open season is to "seek eligible Marine Highway projects that may establish new or enhance existing Marine Highway services." The Federal Register Notice provides full eligibility and application details,

http://www.marad.dot.gov/documents/79_FR_31404_Open_Season_Announcement.pdf

What is needed?

- **AMH** program development, **USDOT/MARAD** to designate Marine Highway Projects; and
- Incentivizing short sea shipping and America's Marine Highways (AAPA, September, 2014)



Source: December, 2014, http://www.marad.dot.gov/image_library/Maps/AMH_Route_Map.png

September, 2014, AAPA presented the port industry's freight priorities to a top U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) official. AAPA President Kurt Nagle and staff met with John Drake, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy and lead staffer on the National Freight Advisory Committee (NFAC). USDOT will release a series of freight infrastructure initiatives in the coming months, and the meeting focused on AAPA opportunities to participate in these efforts. AAPA emphasized the following priorities in the meeting:

- **Need for Federal and State Planning**
 - Designating gateways and corridors
 - Identifying connectors on Primary Freight Network
 - Ensuring expertise in maritime planning is a part of every state DOT
 - Incentivizing short sea shipping and America's Marine Highways
- **Necessity of Dedicated Freight Funding**
 - Making port authorities eligible to apply directly for funding
 - Providing funding for connectors, intermodal projects and "first and last mile" projects
 - Providing funding for Projects of National & Regional Significance (PNRS)
- **Importance of Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) and Strong Financing Options**

DESIGNATED AMH CORRIDORS

MARAD AMH Corridor Studies: In order to identify potential markets for new services, the Maritime Administration is in the process of completing comprehensive studies of the M-5 (West Coast), M-55 (Mississippi River), and M-95 (East Coast) Marine Highway Corridors. Each study discusses market analysis, operations and business plans which are intended to help expand activity in this emerging industry. MARAD conducted a workshop on M-5 Study on October 10 at the CAPA meeting in San Diego. The final reports for the M-55 and M-95 studies were released and are available at www.marad.dot.gov/documents/2012_Marine_Highway.

Current AMH Corridor Services:

- James River Barge Line between Norfolk and Richmond, VA now advertises three sailings per week (M-64 AMH Corridor)
- Tidewater Barge Lines between Ports of Lewiston, ID, Pasco, WA, and Boardman, OR, to Port of Portland, OR. Container on Barge Service, Port of Lewiston, Idaho is looking to expand the existing service along the Colombia River. (M-84 AMH Corridor)
- Green Trade Corridor between Stockton and Oakland, CA began operations on June 9, 2013 (M-580 AMH Corridor). Current stats for the M580 Container on Barge service: Port of Stockton Transitions its M-580 Marine Highway to "as needed service".
- As part of the M-10 corridor a new service between Ports of Freeport and Houston initiated tests runs on May 21, 2013 (M-10 AMH Corridor)
- Couch lines operates a container-on-barge service carrying up to 2,000 containers per month on newly designated M-146 AMH Corridor, Cedar Bayou and the Houston Ship Channel, TX, connecting to the M-10 at the Port of Houston. (M-146 AMH Corridor)
- Port Itawamba, MS is on track to begin its container-on-barge service in FY2014 (M-65 AMH Corridor)
- Chesapeake Service, Columbia Coastal Transport Barge Service between Norfolk, VA to Baltimore, MD (M-95 AMH Corridor)
- Maine Port Authority has selected McAllister Towing as their operational partner and is planned for service among the New England states. Columbia Coastal Transport Barge Service between Baltimore, MD and Philadelphia, PA and Philadelphia, PA and Norfolk, VA (M-95 AMH Corridor)

ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- Water transportation remains the most fuel-efficient way to transport goods, according to a report from the Texas Transportation Institute. "A Modal Comparison of Domestic Freight Transportation Effects on the General Public," says that inland barges can move 616 ton-miles of freight, compared with 478 ton-miles by rail, and 150 ton-miles by truck. The National Waterways Foundation sponsored the study.

FUNDING SOURCES



Since enactment in 2007 AMH has been funded through several sources which need to continue to be targeted for the overall development of the AMH program. These funding sources include:

- Marine Highway Grants– USDOT/MARAD
- Importance of Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) and Strong Financing Options
- Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery Grants (TIGER) – USDOT:
 - \$584M awarded through the USDOT's TIGER 2014 program, 13% (or \$72.2M) specifically for maritime related projects.
 - \$474M awarded through the USDOT's TIGER 2013 program, 21% specifically for maritime related projects.
 - \$500M awarded through the USDOT's TIGER 2012 program, 12% for maritime projects.
 - \$511M awarded through the USDOT's TIGER 2011 program. 12% for maritime projects.
- Surface Transportation Act – USDOT. The main programs of interest to Ports include:
 - National Highway System (NHS) connectors program;
 - Surface Transportation Program (STP); and
 - Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program.
- Title XI Federal Ship Financing Program – USDOT/MARAD
- Capital Construction Fund – USDOT/MARAD

AMH LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

January 4, 2013, Lautenberg Bill Signed into Law to Reauthorize American Maritime Program, Lautenberg Press Office, 202-224-3224. U.S. Senator Frank R. Lautenberg's bill to authorize the Maritime Security Program for the Maritime Administration (MARAD) was signed into law when President Obama signed the National Defense Authorization Act.

December 20, 2012, Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2012 - H. R. 2838. In Section 405 SHORT SEA TRANSPORTATION, amendments were made to the original Short Sea Transportation statute. Expands the purpose of the AMH Program beyond mitigating congestion along coastal corridors and now includes "to promote short sea transportation."

August 11, 2010, U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood identified program elements for further development as part of "AMH," including Marine Highway Corridors, Marine Highway Projects and Marine Highway Initiatives.

April 9, 2010, the Department of Transportation published the final rule that established AMH. This action is required by Public Law 110-140, the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007.

October 28, 2009, Legislation written by Sen. Frank R. Lautenberg (D-NJ) to reauthorize MARAD was signed into law by President Obama as part of the FY2010 Defense Department Authorization Act.

October 9, 2008, the US MARAD published in the Federal Register (73 FR No. 197, 59530) an interim rule seeking comment for short sea transportation routes and specific marine highway projects under AMH Program.

December 19, 2007, Public Law 110-140 was enacted mandating the Department of Transportation to establish a Short Sea Transportation Program.