



How Do We Make America Great Again?

AAPA
www.aapa-ports.org

Building America's 21st Century Seaport Infrastructure

For job creation, economic growth and secure borders

The nation's seaports serve a vital role in U.S. job creation, economic prosperity, international competitiveness and Americans' standard of living. Seaports are economic engines and vital freight gateways to the global marketplace for American farmers, manufacturers and consumers, and also serve as critical infrastructure for the U.S. military.

As President-elect Trump readies his administration, there is an opportunity to leverage these national transportation assets and once again elevate U.S. seaports to world-class status. To help American companies compete in the world market, the incoming administration and Congress must make investments today to build America's 21st century seaport infrastructure, and through tax reform must also address inequities that harm the U.S. seaport system.

As the unified voice of American seaports, the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) looks forward to working with the Trump administration to make seaports a key priority in any infrastructure investment plans. Below are recommendations from AAPA's U.S. members on ways to rebuild seaport-related infrastructure and enact policy reforms that would benefit the entire country.

**Seaport
cargo activity
accounts for:**

**26 percent
of U.S. GDP**

**23 million
American jobs**

Key Actions for 2017 and Beyond:

Eliminate Bottlenecks and Expand Capacity

To improve landside connections to seaports and enhance U.S. global competitiveness, multimodal freight investments must be a key priority. Recommendation: Increase investments in Department of Transportation programs that target seaport infrastructure, including FAST Act freight programs, and the StrongPorts and Marine Highway Programs.

Modernize and Fully Maintain Federal Navigation Channels

The Corps of Engineers Coastal Navigation program manages the maintenance and modernization of federal navigation channels – the nation's water highways to the world market – and should be fully funded. Also underfunded are NOAA's navigation charts and real-time data that ensure safe vessel passage.

Secure America's Ports and Borders

Safe, secure and efficient movement of freight through seaports is fundamental to border protection and the efficient movement of freight. Adequate staffing and resources for Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the U.S. Coast Guard are critical, along with making port authority projects a high priority for FEMA Port Security grants.

Protect the Environment

Federal investments help ports reduce the environmental impact of freight transportation. These investments can help make ports resilient to natural disasters and other potential hazards to avoid a long-term disruption of the nation's freight transportation system.

Leveraging federal investments in seaports can yield large dividends in the form of economic growth, job creation, enhanced transportation efficiency and environmental sustainability.

**For more information on building a 21st century seaports system, please visit:
www.aapa-ports.org**