



Upcoming TxDOT Events

- Environmental Conference, Sept. 16-18, 2014, Galveston, Texas
- Port Authority Advisory Committee meeting Friday, October 10, 2014, Greer Building, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Freight Advisory Committee meeting, October 20, 2014, Houston, Texas (Location TBD)
- Transportation Commission meeting November (adopt Port Capital Program and GIWW Master Plan)

Next issue:

- Legislative session
- Transportation Forum

Texas Gulf Intracoastal Waterway Master Plan



A yearlong study of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) has recently been completed resulting in a long-term Master Plan that explores how TxDOT, as the non-federal sponsor, might be able to play a more active role in achieving the goal of a highly efficient and safe GIWW.



Texas is ranked #2 in total U.S. waterborne tonnage moved. (2012)

The research looked at what is needed to restore and sustain the GIWW to its optimum level. This included an examination of major operational obstacles such as the need to maintain dredging to authorized depth, as well as facilities including the Brazos River Floodgates and Colorado River Locks. Additionally, the report identifies potential funding sources needed to fill the gap due to lack of federal funding.

In addition to researching and documenting important information about the waterway, such as the capacity of dredge disposal placement areas, a GIWW



Stakeholders Working Group was established to provide input and feedback to the research effort. This group, which included operators, federal agencies, and industry representation, provided the researchers with insight into what the primary concerns of users are and feedback regarding the initial findings of the research.

The Gulf Intracoastal Waterway Master Plan and the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway Master Plan Technical Report can be downloaded from the TxDOT website at www.txdot.gov/inside-txdot/division/maritime/.

Texas Global Gateway Project is Underway!

The TxDOT Maritime Division is partnering with the Governor's Office of Economic Development and Tourism to develop and implement the Texas Global Gateway.

The project is a recommendation of the Panama Canal Stakeholder Working Group

to build on existing activities of the Texas Wide Open for Business™ initiative to develop a marketing and information program to provide a one-stop, unified, coordinated, and comprehensive source of information on all transportation modes in Texas for use in promoting the state with shippers,

carriers, and other international clientele.

The first step in the project is a website that provides relevant information about Texas ports and their connection to the transportation system.

We need your help to ensure the information provided for this project is up to date.

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Industry Calendar of Events

- ◆ **Oct. 7 - 9, 2014** - Ports-To-Plains Conference, Del Rio, Texas
- ◆ **Nov. 10 - 12, 2014** - AAPA Annual Convention, Houston, Texas
- ◆ **Nov. 12—14, 2014**—Waterway Council Symposium, Drake Hotel, Chicago, Illinois



Commissioner Moseley Tours the Colorado River Locks and Port of Victoria to Wrap Up Yearlong Tour



Transportation Commissioner Jeff Moseley along with TxDOT Maritime staff paid a visit to the Colorado River Locks in August 2014. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Galveston District were gracious hosts, providing a history and overview of the facility. In 2013, tonnage through both sets of Locks totaled nearly 44 million – up from 31 million tons in 2009. Commissioner Moseley wanted to view this increase in operations

firsthand. Nearby Port of Victoria, a member of the Port Authority Advisory Committee hosted the Commissioner and TxDOT staff as well. The Port is a major player in the Eagle Ford Shale play, handling several unit trains of frac sand and millions of barrels of oil per month. The tour included a look at the Port's new general purpose dock with liquid loading capabilities, as well as the new fleeting area that will provide a safe place for tow operators to tie off.

Did you know?

November Ballot Prop 1 November 4, 2014

Proposition 1 provides for the use and dedication of certain money transferred to the state highway fund to assist in the completion of transportation construction, maintenance, and rehabilitation projects, not to include toll roads. The enabling legislation for the constitutional amendment (SJR 1) was approved during the 83rd Legislature, third called session.

For more information, visit VoteTexas.org

Be Sure to Vote on November 4th!

The PAAC in Action October 10, 2014

The Port Authority Advisory Committee (PAAC) is developing the **2015-2016 Port Capital Program** as required by Texas statute before each Legislative Session. This biennium, the report will identify not only all capital improvement projects planned for Texas ports, but the top statewide projects representing the greatest needs for the state's port community. The identified projects are eligible for funding from the Port Access Account Fund (PAAF) created by the Legislature in 2001, but the PAAF has never been appropriated funds. The PAAC will consider the new Port Capital Program at their next meeting on October 10, 2014 in Austin.