

GreenPort 2017 of Baltimore

Annual Review

Growing Sustainably, Now and in the Future

Economy, environment, community: success for the Port of Baltimore depends on all three. In 2017, the Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA) continued to integrate these values across port operations to enhance environmental stewardship, secure economic benefits, and engage with area residents on important issues.

The port saw another record-breaking year in 2017, handling more containers and autos than any time in its history. The six state-owned terminals, managed by MDOT MPA, handled more than 10 million tons of general cargo for the second consecutive year.

"The Port of Baltimore continues to break records while striving to reach the highest environmental standards," said Governor Larry Hogan.

To support the growth in commerce, MDOT MPA purchased 70 acres near the Seagirt Marine Terminal for additional cargo space. Long-range planning also drew renewed attention to the innovative and beneficial re-use of dredged material; MDOT MPA participated in an inter-agency workgroup to



MDOT MPA executive director James White presents a ceremonial ship wheel to Capt. Vito Prudenza of Atlantic Container Lines during the 2017 christening of the Grande Baltimore.

produce guidance for future projects.

MDOT MPA's Environmental Management System, which outlines environmental goals and best practices, was recertified in 2017 under the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) with an emphasis on proactive initiatives. The Diesel Equipment Upgrade Program continued to reduce emissions from port-related commerce, and the MDOT MPA sponsored tree plantings to reduce pol-

luted stormwater runoff in Baltimore neighborhoods. *Inbound Logistics* magazine named the port a Green Supply Chain Partner for its environmental efforts, just as Baltimore was chosen as the first United States host of the international GreenPort Congress on May 16-18, 2018.

"This is an important event for the maritime industry and a great opportunity to share the ongoing success of the Port of Baltimore," Hogan said.



GreenPort 2017, published by the Maryland Department of Transportation Port Administration, describes the projects and programs that took place in 2017 to support a thriving economy, environmental stewardship, and community partnerships. We thank the many private sector businesses, government leaders, communities, and individual citizens who have helped make these achievements a reality.

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The Port of Baltimore continued to break cargo-handling records in 2017.

BILL MCALLEN

Commerce on the Rise

Yes, once again, the Port of Baltimore had a record-setting year. In 2017, the Port handled more containers and autos than any time in its history. The Port also set a new record by handling 10.7 million tons of general cargo at its six state-owned terminals, making it the second consecutive year for handling more than 10 million tons of general cargo. Examples of general cargo are autos and light trucks; containers; farm, mining and construction equipment; and forest products. The increase in commerce is partly driven by the port's ability to accept the "supersized" ships traveling through the newly expanded Panama Canal. Baltimore is one of only four U.S. East Coast ports with the infrastructure to do this.

Overall, port business generates about 13,650 direct jobs, with more than 127,000 jobs in Maryland linked to port activities. The port is responsible for nearly \$3 billion in personal wages and salary and \$310 million in state and local tax revenues.

More Space for More Cargo

To support the increase in commerce, MDOT MPA purchased 70 acres at the Point Breeze Business Center in Baltimore, located behind the Seagirt Marine Terminal on Broening Highway. The site will be used for containerized cargo storage and possibly autos and roll on/roll off cargo. About 1,650 jobs are projected.

Advancing Innovation

Innovative and Beneficial Reuse is the name for MDOT MPA's effort to recycle up to 500,000 cubic yards of dredged material annually. To support this goal, MDOT MPA has been working with the Maryland Department of the Environment to create a guidance document for vendors, agencies, and companies wishing to use dredged material in a variety of ways; the results of their work were published in 2017. Opportunities are now being explored for small-volume demonstration projects that will reuse dredged material from the harbor that meets environmental standards.

Expansion at Cox Creek

Approximately 93 acres at the Cox Creek dredged material placement site are almost completely cleared of derelict buildings to prepare for the creation of new dikes. Existing dikes will be raised from 36 to 60 feet above the mean low water level to increase the site's capacity for dredged material. A portion of the site will be used to support the recycling of dredged material.

Restoring Poplar Island

The expansion of Poplar Island, a restoration project using dredged material from shipping channels, is underway. The 575-acre expansion will increase the total project size to 1,715 acres, allowing for a project placement total of 68 million cubic yards of dredged material. After being drained, graded and planted, the expanded area will offer still more habitat for wildlife.

The Grande Baltimora

The Italy-based Grimaldi Group invited Baltimore dignitaries to christen the *Grande Baltimora* in October. The name of the ship honors the relationship between the Port of Baltimore and Grimaldi, whose subsidiary, Atlantic Container Lines, is a long-standing carrier. The new, 13-deck ship is dedicated to roll on/roll off cargo and can carry approximately 6,700 cars or 2,500 pieces of oversized farm and construction equipment.

Strong Cruise Numbers

Cruises continue to be a thriving part of port business, generating approximately \$90 million in economic benefits. In 2017, 96 cruises departed from or called at the Port of Baltimore, carrying 210,622 passengers.

New Trees Taking Root

MDOT MPA partnered with Blue Water Baltimore to plant and maintain 500 trees in the Baltimore region in 2017. The saplings were planted in parks, at schools, and on property owned by institutions and private citizens in Cherry Hill, West Baltimore, and the Baltimore Highlands, and Blue Water Baltimore incorporated the project into its workforce development program for teens and young adults.

The new trees will intercept and slow rain fall, absorbing and filtering stormwater that would otherwise carry pollutants towards our waterways. They are also attractive additions to neighborhoods that will cool the air and sequester carbon.

Reducing Air Emissions

MDOT MPA continues to work with partners through its Clean Diesel Grant Program to upgrade or replace older trucks, locomotives, and other cargo-handling equipment to reduce emissions and promote air quality.

As of 2017, the program has provided financial assistance to 172 dray trucks. In 2017, the program also enabled Canton Railroad to install idle-reduction technology on their locomotives.



Phil Morris of the Canton Railroad Company explains the use of idle-reduction technology for an "Eco-Minute" video, available on the Port of Baltimore's You Tube channel.



Five hundred new trees in Baltimore neighborhoods will help filter stormwater runoff.

These achievements are highlighted in short "Eco-Minute" videos available on the Port of Baltimore's You Tube channel. Replacement of additional cargo-handling equipment is underway.

Powered up with Algae

A clean-water demonstration project at the Dundalk Marine Terminal successfully generated electrical power. The project, funded by MDOT MPA and the U.S. Department of Transportation Maritime Administration, uses the controlled growth of algae to remove nutrients from Patapsco River water. An added component in 2017 was the temporary demonstration of the system's ability to be self-powered. The algae was fed into a digester to produce biogas, which was then used to power a fuel cell and produce electricity for two outdoor lights.

Exploring Masonville Cove

A new portion of Masonville Cove opened to the public in 2017. The

25-acre upland area features tidal and non-tidal wetlands, two osprey platforms, natural tree groves, and walking trails.

MDOT MPA is restoring the cove as part of its operations at the adjacent dredged material placement site. Much of the cove is already open for hiking, fishing, watching wildlife, and enjoying educational programs.

Trash-Free Port Initiative

"Throw away, don't blow away!" The slogan is cropping up all over the Dundalk Marine Terminal as part of a new anti-litter campaign by MDOT MPA and Wallenius-Wilhelmsen Logistics. As part of the Trash-Free Port Initiative, the campaign aims to reduce the amount of litter that enters and harms nearby waterways. It includes promoting awareness among terminal employees and truck drivers, and installing additional solar-operated trash receptacles. Also, four employees have volunteered to serve as Trash Champions who encourage better disposal habits.



This photo of least terns at Masonville Cove, submitted by Wendy Crowe, was the first-place winner of MDOT MPA's photo contest, "Sediment to Solutions."

Outreach and Engagement

Citizen voices matter. Throughout 2017, MDOT MPA continued its outreach to Baltimore neighborhoods to talk about port issues and learn about community interests. Many citizen volunteers gave time and energy to MDOT MPA's advisory committees, including the Dredged Material Management Program, which toured Poplar Island to learn about the expansion project. The public is welcome to attend any of these meetings.

A Talented Community

Two port-related contests drew an enthusiastic response in 2017. Forty-five entries were submitted to MDOT MPA's photo contest, "Sediment to Solutions." The contest called on amateur photographers to submit photos they

felt represented the Port of Baltimore. Wendy Crowe won both first and second place for her images of birds at Masonville Cove. Third place went to Molly Hoopes for her photo of sailboats at Hart-Miller Island.

Residents and students of communities next to Masonville Cove submitted suggestions in a contest to name a new trash wheel that will be placed at the cove in 2018. The winning suggestions from Lakeland Elementary/Middle School were then released for public votes on social media. "Captain Trash Wheel" was the winner.

Tours and Programs

Port-related programs at schools, field tours, and community events reached 23,363 people in 2017 and were supported by the Maryland Environ-

mental Service, National Aquarium, and Living Classrooms Foundation. More than 100 volunteers teamed up with experts for the fourth annual Masonville BioBlitz and documented 163 species of wildlife at the site. In partnership with the Baltimore Port Alliance, terminal tours introduced community members and nonprofit organizations to port operations and environmental initiatives.

Pearce Creek Waterline

MDOT MPA is funding a public waterline from the Town of Cecilton to neighborhoods near the Pearce Creek dredged material placement site, owned and operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Past operations (1937–1993) contributed to degraded water quality in some private wells. The first homes were connected to the new water system in 2017. The placement site was reactivated and began accepting dredged material December from the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal approach channels.

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