

March 2018

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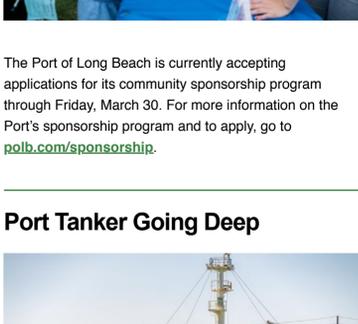
Record Year of Cargo



The Port of Long Beach roared back from unprecedented challenges to notch its busiest year ever in 2017, moving 7.54 million container units, an increase of more than 11 percent.

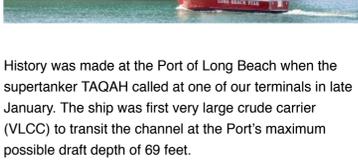
To hear more about the Port's record-breaking 2017 and future plans, [you can watch the State of the Port address](#), which POLB Executive Director Mario Cordero delivered in late January.

Sponsorships Available for the Community



The Port of Long Beach is currently accepting applications for its community sponsorship program through Friday, March 30. For more information on the Port's sponsorship program and to apply, go to polb.com/sponsorship.

Port Tanker Going Deep



History was made at the Port of Long Beach when the supertanker TAQAH called at one of our terminals in late January. The ship was first very large crude carrier (VLCC) to transit the channel at the Port's maximum possible draft depth of 69 feet.

In doing so, the vessel ushered in a new era of safer, cleaner and more efficient marine oil shipping operations poised to serve as a model for ports nationwide. This was made possible by a web-based tool – PROTIDE – which analyzes wave, weather and vessel data to predict whether an oil tanker has sufficient under-keel clearance to reach a terminal safely.

[Read more about the groundbreaking technology that was used to make this possible here.](#)

Working Far from the Ground



You can't be afraid of heights for this job. [Watch this quick video](#) to see how a worker on the Gerald Desmond Bridge Replacement Project stands on a single steel beam about 30 feet off the ground, receiving a girder from a giant crane. This is part of the falsework that will be used to construct the future northbound 710 Freeway connector.

Watch how he uses hand signals to communicate with the crane operator as the beam is lowered into position. In just over 30 minutes, six girders were placed; that's how safely and efficiently these workers positioned a couple tons of steel!

And, if you think this work is challenging, try doing it at night. For the span of the connector directly to the east that goes over Pico Avenue, the beam receiving and placement occurred under lights to minimize traffic impacts on one of the busiest roadways in the port.

For more updates, visit our Bridge Project website at www.newgdbridge.com or follow us on social media.

Community Grants' Fund-Filled 2017



The Port's Community Grants Program funds projects outside the Harbor District to minimize Port impacts related to air, noise, water and traffic. Recently \$65 million was set aside for this program, the largest voluntary program of its kind in the nation.

[You can read the 2017 Annual Report here](#), which details how the program set priorities with the community's help and highlights the program's accomplishments to date.

[Read more about the Port's community grants here.](#)

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Upcoming Events

13th Annual Kids in the Kitchen

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Saturday, March 3
Martin Luther King Jr. Park
1950 Lemon Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90806

Long Beach Touch-A-Truck

9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Sunday, March 4
Granada Beach
1 Granada Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90803

Anti-Bullying & Social Media Awareness Workshop

9 a.m. - noon
Saturday, March 10
California State University, Long Beach
1250 Bellflower Blvd.
Long Beach, CA 90840
CBA Building, Room 140
Free parking in Lot 17

LDig Long Beach

9 a.m. - noon
Saturday, March 17
Intersection of Eleanor St. & Walnut Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90805

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What are you interested in knowing?

We want to know what you, the community, are interested in knowing! Please e-mail suggestions and questions for this newsletter to communityrelations@polb.com.