

PORT AWARDED FEDERAL SECURITY FUNDS

LONG BEACH, Calif., June 20, 2002 – The Port of Long Beach has been awarded \$4.3 million in federal grants to enhance landside law enforcement patrols and to launch a video surveillance system to monitor bridges and roadways.

The funds are part of \$92.3 million in post-Sept. 11 port security grants announced June 17 by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT). The grants were awarded to 51 ports throughout the nation.

“Protecting seaports and port facilities against the threat of terrorism is imperative,” said Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta. “The terrorist attacks have resulted in a renewed focus on the security of our transportation systems and we at DOT are aggressively meeting these challenges on several fronts.”

In total, the port had applied for nearly \$20 million in federal grants to fund seven programs.

“This is a good start,” port Executive Director Richard Steinke said of the Department of Transportation grants. “We appreciate the recognition by the federal government of our need for this funding. We look forward to passage of the comprehensive port security bill now before Congress, and additional appropriations to augment our security initiatives.”

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