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MANSON AWARDED \$33.6 MILLION DREDGING AND WHARF CONTRACT

The Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners voted Monday, May 21, to award a \$33.6 million dredging and wharf contract for a 375-acre container shipping terminal under construction at the former Terminal Island naval complex.

Commissioners chose the low bid submitted by Manson Construction Co. of Seattle, Wash. The only other bid received was for \$35.2 million from General-Connolly J.V. of Poulsbo, Wash.

The work includes dredging approximately 625,000 cubic yards from the bottom of the harbor and extending the wharf currently under construction by 1,325 feet. Dredging in the West Basin will take the depth to minus 50 feet. Dredged material will either be used for grading at Pier T and Pier S or to fill in dry docks 2 and 3. Any remaining material will be disposed of at a main channel disposal site. The dredging and wharf extension work is expected to start in June and to be completed by August 2001.

With the Manson contract, the port will have committed more than \$202 million toward construction of the new terminal, with contracts still to be awarded for the completion of paving, construction of an on-dock rail yard and buildings, and remaining demolition.

Port officials are currently negotiating with Hanjin Shipping Co. of South Korea to lease the new terminal. The shipping line signed a letter of intent in March to enter into a 25-year lease, which is expected to generate port revenues of at least \$42 million a year. The terminal will be the port's largest.