



From the Bridge

**Richard
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*Port of Long Beach
Executive Director*

It was an amazing sight to see – millions of gallons of natural seawater streaming back into the Bolsa Chica Wetlands last year, after more than a century of separation from the ocean.

I am proud that the Port of Long Beach contributed to the Bolsa Chica restoration effort. The project is providing a better home for wildlife and giving Southern Californians a beautiful place to reconnect with nature.

Building on that success, the Port is exploring projects to restore natural wildlife habitat right here in Long Beach. On Pages 4 and 5, you can read more about our work with the community, looking at various ways we can help restore the Los Cerritos Wetlands and improve the Colorado Lagoon.

It's just one of the ways we are improving the environment and community under the Green Port Policy, our guiding environmental ethic, and the Clean Air Action Plan, our cooperative clean-air partnership. Among the clean-air projects are Pacific Harbor Line's new, cleaner locomotive engines, which will result in a 70 percent reduction in the most harmful air pollutants from trains.

While the environment is a key focus for us at the Port, securing the Port remains a top priority. The Port recently broke ground on a new, state-of-the-art Command and Control Center to enhance security (Page 8) and we're continuing to test new technology to make further improvements, such as the new underwater remote vehicles featured on Page 6.

I hope you enjoy reading about these projects that are improving the community and keeping the Port green and secure.

Cordero Takes the Helm

Local Attorney to Lead Harbor Commission

Harbor Commissioner Mario Cordero, a local attorney, has been elected as the commission's president for a one-year term.

The commissioners also elected Dr. Mike Walter as vice president, Doris Topsy-Elvord as secretary and James C. Hankla as assistant secretary.

As president of the five-member Port governing board, Cordero will preside over the commission's weekly meetings, make committee appointments and act as chief spokesperson for the Port.

"As our Green Port Policy mandates, trade growth runs parallel to being an environmental steward," Cordero said. "(Our) challenge is not only to be a leader, but an innovator."



New Commission President Mario Cordero, right, takes the gavel from outgoing President James C. Hankla.

Cordero, staff counsel for Safeco Insurance, was appointed to a six-year term on the commission in 2003. He also teaches political science at Long Beach City College and previously served on the City of Long Beach's Ethics Review Task Force.

Mayor Appoints West L.B. Engineer to Port Commission

Long Beach Mayor Bob Foster has appointed Nick Sramek to fill the seat of Harbor Commissioner John Hancock, who completed 12 years of service on the five-member, Port of Long Beach governing board.



Nick Sramek

Sramek, a Westside resident and City of Long Beach planning commissioner, is an electrical engineer for The Aerospace Corporation in El Segundo.

He has lived in Long Beach for nearly his entire life and founded the West Long Beach Business Association.

The appointment is for a six-year term. Sramek's appointment was confirmed unanimously by the Long Beach City Council.

Hancock, who was first appointed in 1995 and re-appointed in 2001, served the maximum of two, six-year terms on the Board of Harbor Commissioners.

He is the president of Bancap Investment Group, a real estate investment and development firm; and president of Hancock and Associates, a financial and marketing advisory services firm.