

News Release

Port Awarded Nearly \$8 million for Security Federal stimulus money to fund projects, create jobs

September 24, 2009

The Port of Long Beach was awarded \$7.8 million on Wednesday, September 24, under a federal economic stimulus program designed to fund security projects around the country while creating jobs. The Port received the largest award among all the applicants in the latest round of grants.

Most of the grant money, about \$6.8 million, will go toward the Port's Fiber Optic Network project, which will provide a high-speed, interference free security communication system for the Port complex. The Port also was awarded \$984,500 to install barriers, bollards, and fencing to protect critical structures.

"These federal funds will do exactly what they were intended to do here at the Port: enhance security while supporting jobs and the economy," said Port of Long Beach Executive Director Richard D. Steinke. "In this challenging economy, it is critical that we explore every source of funding available to make sure that we continue to improve Port security."

Overall, the Department of Homeland Security on Wednesday awarded more than \$380 million in grants —funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)—to more than a dozen projects nationwide. Locally, the Long Beach Fire Department received \$100,000 and Port tenant Total Terminals International received \$1 million for security improvements at its facilities.

ARRA, signed into law by President Obama on February 19, committed more than \$3 billion for homeland security projects throughout the country.

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