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# What's AAPA Working On?

Baltimore Freight Movement Task Force



# American Association of Port Authorities

AAPA was established in 1912

- Since then, AAPA has provided a space for collaboration and exchange of best practices
- Fostering collaboration among members and allied groups. We do this through:
  - Education and Training: PPA® and PPX® credential programs, and PPM® certification program
  - Networking and one-on-one interaction
  - Legislative and Policy support
  - Outreach



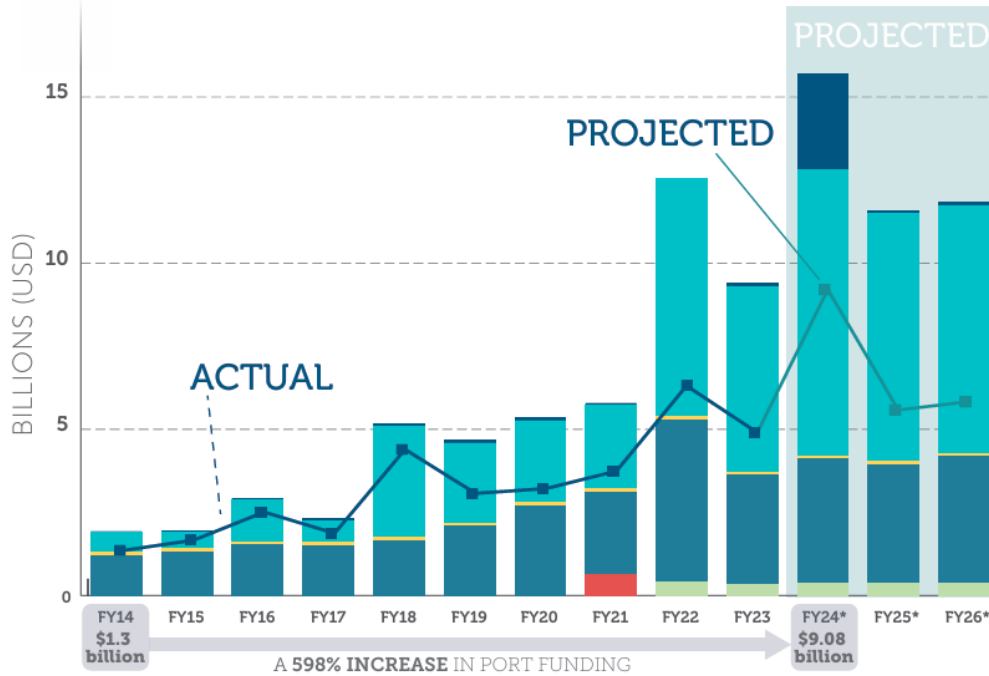
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# FEDERAL PORT FUNDING

## Increased investment in ports & infrastructure

Thanks to the effective advocacy of AAPA members on historic infrastructure legislation, federal funding in FY24 will be 598% higher than in FY14.



### TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS BY AGENCY

- **Environmental Protection Agency**
  - Clean Ports Program
  - DERA
- **U.S. Department of Transportation**
  - MEGA
  - PROTECT
  - Reduction of Truck Emissions at Port Facilities
  - Marine Highway Program
  - CRISI
  - PIDP
  - INFRA/FASTLANE
  - RAISE/BUILD/TIGER
- **Department of Homeland Security**
  - Port Security Grant Program
- **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**
  - Coastal Navigation
- **American Rescue Plan**
- **Earmarks**

— Projected Port Awards: FY24-26  
 — Actual Awarded to Ports

# Port Cybersecurity

- Port cybersecurity has received significant attention from multiple sectors of government including:
  - A sweeping overhaul of USCG cybersecurity minimum standards in a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM)
    - AAPA produced thorough comments in collaboration with our security Committee.
  - The White House published a National Security Memorandum, directing CISA to lead a whole-of-government effort to increase cybersecurity resiliency across all sectors of critical infrastructure.
  - CISA, under DHS, released duplicative reporting requirements for ports under the authority of Cyber Incident Reporting for Critical Infrastructure Act of 2022 (CIRCIA).
    - AAPA submitted comments pushing back on this duplicative reporting requirement.



# Update on Tariffs

- The 25% tariff on ship-to-shore cranes, expected to go into effect on August 1, was delayed
- AAPA submitted comments in strong opposition, outlined our concerns to Congress, worked with LA and GA Senators (in conjunction with ports) to send letter of concern to USTR
- We requested a delay until the completion of a full Section 301 investigation or that all cranes ordered before the tariff announcement be excluded
- Unclear at this point when USTR will announce the implementation date of the tariffs
- Our indications point to an exemption for cranes on order



# 'Buy America' and the Need to Reshore Strategic Equipment Manufacturing

- Procurement restrictions on infrastructure grant funding are costly, and in many cases, impossible. We've hammered on the need for waivers.
- MARAD and AAPA are finalizing a study to determine demand for port equipment. Data collection is underway, results are expected imminently.
- Our association is pursuing a pooled procurement model for group purchasing.
- Further incentives: CRANES Act



# Permitting

- Reps David Rouzer (R-NC) and Mary Peltola (D-AK) have introduced the PORT Act
  - Gives MARAD greater flexibility in using categorical exclusions (CEs) and ports more time to apply for PIDP grants if MARAD delays the full NOFO.
  - **The legislation was recently included in the House NDAA, an annual must-pass package.**
  - We are also engaged with key Senate staff on this effort
- The Fiscal Responsibility Act (debt ceiling compromise) made significant changes to the permitting process, including time and page limits on NEPA, requirements that one Federal Agency lead all permit evaluations and a shorter statute of limitations on permitting lawsuits.





# Water Resources Development Act (WRDA)

- Congress is deliberating after passing the House and Senate
- AAPA has been at the table throughout the process
- AAPA continuing dialogue with House and Senate staff – had meetings this past week
- House T & I Water staff recently presented before our Harbors and Navigation Subcommittee



# CBP SPACE Act

- Addresses overreach from CBP at port facilities which has been an ongoing problem for years
- Introduced by Reps Laurel Lee (R-FL) and Marie Gluesenkamp-Perez (D-WA)
- Industry letter of support garnered 45 signatures
- On behalf of AAPA, Rep. Laurel Lee submitted QFR's to CBP



# Expected Whale Rules

- Vessel Speed Restrictions
- Critical Habitat Designation
- AAPA and our member ports have continued to push back
- OIRA Meetings
  - The Right Whale Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup>
  - The Rice's Whale Wednesday, July 7<sup>th</sup>



# Offshore Wind

- Projects continue to face challenges with supply chains and cost overruns. But several projects are moving ahead, with active terminals up and down the East Coast.
- Ports in the Gulf and West Coast are also in planning stages.
- AAPA recently endorsed the RISEE Act, legislation from Senators Whitehouse (D-RI) and Cassidy (R-LA) to fund offshore wind port infrastructure with some BOEM lease revenues



# Election 2024 Potential Outcomes

- Republican Controlled Federal Government:
  - Higher tariffs which could depress trade volumes
  - Likely budget cuts to key grant programs
  - Strong potential for permitting reform and energy export growth
- Democratic Control:
  - Opportunity for increased grant funding like an IRA 2.0 or more decarb
  - Continued permitting problems and bureaucratic delays along with restrictive environmental policy



# 2024 AAPA Annual Convention & Expo

## October 27-30 | Boston, Massachusetts

- During the 112th Annual Convention in 2023, AAPA hosted more than 60 exhibitors, 650 attendees, and 71 ports from the United States, Canada, the Caribbean and Latin America.
- The upcoming Annual Convention is set to be AAPA's biggest and best annual gathering yet.
- AAPA is introducing a discount program exclusively for port members during the early bird period (ending April 5th):
  - 5 Registrations = 6<sup>th</sup> registration at a 20% discount
  - 10 Registrations = 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> registrations at a 20% discount
- We are thrilled to host employees from your port and aim to offer valuable content for every avenue, from the CEO level to managers of public affairs, operations, government relations, etc.





**Thank you.**