

**PORT OF GALVESTON
REQUEST FOR DISCUSSION**

BUSINESS ITEM

SUBJECT: Discuss and Consider Legislative Agenda

DISCUSSION: This item was placed on the agenda for Trustee discussion and consideration.



**88th Texas Legislative Agenda
Draft for Discussion Purposes Only**

- I. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Legislation
 - a. As a self-supporting entity, the Port receives no tax support. As such, the Port must generate revenue to reinvest in much-needed waterfront improvements to grow business, generate regional jobs and boost the economy.
 - b. ARPA specifically provides transfer authority to the State of Texas to a special-purpose unit of local government involved in the transport of passengers or cargo for lost revenue due to COVID-19.
 - c. Legislation passed the House in the 87th legislative session but not the Senate
- II. TXDOT Fair Share of Funding for Maritime
 - a. Ports \$450B to Texas GDP or 25%
 - b. Maritime receives \$10M per year for all Texas Ports or less than ½ of 1% of TXDOT \$2.4B budget
- III. 2023 RESTORE: The port will make appropriation requests through legislation accordingly.
 - a. Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund, which was established in the Treasury by the Resources and Ecosystem Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act)
 - b. West End infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure administered out of the Office of the Governor
- IV. Continue Port's environmental stewardship through Infrastructure Investment Job Act (IIJA)
 - a. IIJA will be awarded through state programs such as TxDOT, TCEQ, and General Land Office.
 - b. The port will work with the 88th Legislature to explore opportunities for clean energy projects that improve port infrastructure, enhance efficiency, and increase jobs. The port will make appropriation requests through legislation accordingly.
- V. Resume discussions with federal and state legislators regarding advanced funding opportunities and the elevated highway project.