

- **NEWS RELEASE -**Monday, August 31, 2020

Port of Corpus Christi, City of Port Aransas Reach Settlement on Harbor Island

Corpus Christi, TX, USA – The Port of Corpus Christi and City of Port Aransas have reached an agreement on the future development of Harbor Island. This agreement amicably resolves all pending litigation between the Parties.

Port and City leaders have been in settlement negotiations for many months, and the City of Port Aransas City Council authorized the approval of the agreement by a 7-0 vote on August 20th. The Port Commission authorized the Port Commission Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer to finalize the settlement agreement at its July 21st Commission Meeting.

"We are thrilled to finally have reached an agreement with the City of Port Aransas on how to best move forward with the development of Harbor Island," said **Sean Strawbridge, Chief Executive Officer for the Port of Corpus Christi**. "We value our relationships with local municipalities, and this agreement paves the way for more economic prosperity and public safety for the good citizens of Port Aransas. We thank Mayor Bujan, the entire City Council, and City Manager Dave Parsons for their leadership in reaching this accord, thereby endorsing a long-term collaborative view of the future of Harbor Island."

"For a number of years, the City and Port Authority have been fighting over matters regarding each entity's respective regulatory powers, and how conflicts between such powers should be resolved. This costly fight has recently spilled over into the courts. But, finally, by entering into an interlocal agreement the Port and the City <u>now</u> have a workable framework in place to address development on Harbor Island, including oversight on city ordinance and permitting issues, and funding provisions to address fire protection and emergency services. The agreement also ends all of the litigation between the City and the Port. Hopefully, this agreement can serve as a springboard for continued discussions with the Port on Harbor Island and on other matters of mutual concern between the Port and the City. The City is pleased to have resolved these issues and looks forward to continuing to address related matters of concern to the City's residents," said **Charles Bujan, Mayor of the City of Port Aransas**.

"This agreement illustrates the willingness of both parties to resolve their differences without resorting to further litigation," said **Charles W. Zahn, Port of Corpus Christi Commission Chairman.** "We are excited to continue collaborating with the City of Port Aransas."

About Port Corpus Christi

As a leader in U.S. Crude Oil export ports and a major economic engine of Texas and the nation, Port Corpus Christi is the 3^{rd} largest port in the United States in total revenue tonnage. Strategically located on the western Gulf of Mexico with a 36-mile, soon to be 54-foot (MLLW) deep channel, Port Corpus Christi is a major gateway to international and domestic maritime commerce. The Port has excellent railroad and highway network connectivity via three North American Class-1 railroads and two major interstate highways. With an outstanding staff overseen by its seven-member commission, Port Corpus Christi is "Moving America's Energy." www.portofcc.com

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