



1375 E. Ninth St., #2300
Cleveland, OH 44114
216.241.8004 (tel)
216.241.8016 (fax)

For Immediate Release
Dec. 4, 2009

Port Authority Lands Major Step Forward for Lakefront Development Plan

- *Plan promotes access to lakefront, recreation and more*
- *Groundbreaking could occur in two to three years*

The Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Port Authority today landed a major step toward implementing a new lakefront development plan that promotes access to Cleveland's lakefront, recreation and leisure-time activities, economic development and new waterfront communities.

The City of Cleveland Planning Commission approved conceptual plans today, allowing the project to move forward. Groundbreaking could occur within two to three years.

"This is a very important step for a project that represents a huge value proposition for the Port, the city, the county and the region," said Steven J. Williams, chair of the Port Authority's Board of Directors. "The ongoing community dialogue concerning this project will be invaluable as we work together to improve the lakefront and support the Port's maritime business. Meanwhile, the Port will work diligently with the maritime community on an integration strategy that addresses both redevelopment and Port operations as it moves forward."

The first two phases of the lakefront development plan can proceed without impacting current maritime operations, he said. "Over the longer term, we will continue to explore the feasibility of relocating our maritime operations to East 55th Street."

Peter Raskind, interim CEO of the Port Authority, noted that the lakefront development plan is key among seven priorities the Port will address in the coming weeks and months.

"While we are delighted by this important approval by the Planning Commission, we are also working hard on many other fronts the board has identified," he said. "Among other things, we are working with the Army Corps of Engineers to find interim dredging solutions to ensure that our shipping lanes remain open, and seeking an individual with appropriate experience and leadership skills to advance the Port's important work over the long term."

For more information regarding this press release, please contact David Hertz at Dix & Eaton at 216-241-2145 (office) or 330-697-8856 (mobile).

For more information about the Port Authority, visit portofcleveland.com

#