



Freight Planning Fact Sheet

Port of Benicia

Port Address 1997 Elm Road, Benicia, CA 94510
Port Website http://www.worldportsource.com/ports/USA_CA_Port_of_Benicia_765.php
Port Contact Randy Scott, General Manager, AMPORTS - Benicia
RScott@amports.com, (707) 479-0633; Main line (707) 745-2394
Caltrans Contacts HQ: Terri Bridges, (916) 654-3419; Terri_Bridges@dot.ca.gov
 District 4: Joseph Aguilar, (510) 286-5591; Joseph_Aguilar@dot.ca.gov

The deep water Port of Benicia (Port) is located in Solano County on the northern bank of the Carquinez Strait approximately 19 miles northeast of the Port of Oakland and 25 miles northeast of the Port of San Francisco.

In the early 1960s, two events dramatically changed the Port. The Benicia Arsenal, a U.S. Army Base, was closed and the Benicia-Martinez Bridge was completed. When the Arsenal closed, it took with it the Port’s economic base. The City of Benicia (City) leaders converted the old arsenal grounds into an industrial park that eventually produced more income for the City than the Army Base. The Benicia industrial park lies to the northeast of the residential areas of the City and includes the Valero oil refinery. The Bridge made the Port a suburb of the San Francisco-Oakland metropolitan area, which brought the City much new development.

The Port is privately owned and operated by APS West Coast, Inc. AMPORTS, a leader in the vehicle processing industry, operates ten seaports in the U.S. and Mexico, including Benicia. AMPORTS’ State Tidelands lease with this Port ends in 2032.



PORT INFRASTRUCTURE

Channel Depth	38 ft.
Deepwater Berths	3
Acres	667
Vehicle Processing	140,000 sq. ft.
Deepwater pier	2,400 feet
Benicia Industrial Park	4,000 acres
Rail Access	On-terminal

PORT TRADE CHARACTERISTICS

IMPORTS

Automobiles

EXPORTS

Petroleum coke (Valero)

MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS

Japan, South Korea, and Australia

PORT TRADE CHARACTERISTICS (CONT.)

- Port handles neo-bulk and dry bulk cargos
- Automobiles handled at Port include: General Motors, Ford, Chrysler, and Toyota
- The Port is the Northern California hub for the domestic distribution of Fords and Chryslers
- All Toyotas that are delivered to Northern California are processed from this Port
- CODA Automotive, Inc. and AMPORTS will assemble electric cars creating 50 new jobs
- The Port has sufficient acreage for bulk cargo operations and storage

Freight Planning Fact Sheet

MAJOR PORT PROJECTS

- None

KEY PLANNING & PARTNER AGENCIES

- Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)
- Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG)
- Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD)
- Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC)
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- California Air Resources Board
- Maritime Administration
- Alameda County Local Transportation Commission
- Contra Costa Transportation Authority

PLANNING DOCUMENTS

- San Francisco Bay Area Seaport Plan, BCDC, April 18, 1996, amended January 2007
- San Francisco Bay Plan, BCDC, Amended October 6, 2011
- Change in Motion – Transportation 2035 Plan for the San Francisco Bay Area, by ABAG, BAAQMD, BCDC, Final April 2009
- Strategic Plan FY 2009-2011, City of Benicia

MAJOR PORT ISSUES

- Dredging to maintain ship channels
- Worldwide economic recession negatively impacted the automotive industry
- Insufficient flat backland for container terminal development
- Navigation channel is limited to 35 feet, restricting the size and type of vessels that can call the port

CALTRANS FOCUS AREAS

- Environmental and community concerns
- Freight congestion on I-80
- Freight corridor high pavement damage

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION NETWORK

Access Routes

I-680 I-780 I-80 SR 4

- Port located near the junction of I-680 and I-780
- Port highway access is one mile from I-680

RAIL

- Union Pacific (UP) Railroad operates two rail lines and provides transcontinental services
- UP provides on-terminal rail that can service 170 multi-level railcars simultaneously

REFERENCES AND SOURCES

American Association of Port Authorities: <http://www.aapa-ports.org/home.cfm>

Association of Bay Area Governments: <http://www.abag.ca.gov/>

Bay Area Air Quality Management District: <http://www.baaqmd.gov/>

California Air Resource Board: <http://www.arb.ca.gov>

California Transportation Commission 2011 Needs Assessment: <http://www.catc.ca.gov/reports/index.htm>

Caltrans District 4: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/corridor-mobility/d4-page.html>

Change in Motion – Transportation 2035 Plan for the San Francisco Bay Area, Final April 2009, MTC:

http://www.mtc.ca.gov/planning/2035_plan/FINAL/T2035_Plan-Final.pdf

City of Benicia: <http://www.ci.benicia.ca.us/>

San Francisco Bay Area Seaport Plan, MTC and San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), January 2007: <http://www.bcdc.ca.gov/pdf/seaport/seaport.pdf>

Solano Transportation Authority: <http://www.sta.ca.gov/>

Solano County: <http://www.co.solano.ca.us/>