

BOARD OF DIRECTORS*Dorothy P. Harris, Chairperson**Conchita S.N. Taitano, Vice Chairperson**Fe R. Valencia-Ovalles, Board Secretary**Mark B. Mendiola, Board Member***Resolution No. 2025-40****RELATIVE TO THE MARITIME RESILIENCE AND INNOVATION SUMMIT****BE IT RESOLVED BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE JOSE D. LEON GUERRERO COMMERCIAL PORT:**

WHEREAS, this Resolution is intended to formally recognize the outcomes of the Port Authority of Guam's Maritime Resilience and Innovation Summit, including the adoption of its After-Action Report and acknowledgment of the Sister Ports Agreement with the Port of Long Beach; and

WHEREAS, the Port Authority of Guam was awarded a two point four one-million-dollar United States Environmental Protection Agency Inflation Reduction Act Clean Ports Program planning grant for air quality and emissions reduction initiatives, including an emissions inventory, a Net Zero Emissions Strategy, a Workforce Development Plan, a Resilience Strategy, an Implementation Plan, and an Emissions Reduction and Scenario Analysis Tool; and

WHEREAS, as part of these initiatives, the Port hosted the Maritime Resilience and Innovation Summit on October 22, 2025 at the Hyatt Regency Guam, convening more than one hundred thirty leaders from forty-two organizations across government, military, academia, and industry; and

WHEREAS, the Summit formed a central part of the Port's Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration and Port Week 2025, featuring keynote addresses, technical sessions, and panel discussions focused on clean energy transition, workforce development, infrastructure modernization, and regional collaboration; and

WHEREAS, distinguished speakers included Governor Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, Lieutenant Governor Joshua F. Tenorio, Senator Jesse A. Lujan, Sharon L. Weissman of the Port of Long Beach, Conchita S. N. Taitano of the Association of Pacific Ports, and Port Authority of Guam General Manager Rory J. Respicio; and

WHEREAS, the Summit's three primary objectives were to introduce and advance key EPA Clean Ports Program initiatives at the Port Authority of Guam, promote knowledge sharing and regional collaboration on energy resilience and modern infrastructure, and showcase Guam's leadership in sustainable maritime operations throughout the Indo Pacific region; and

WHEREAS, the Summit opened with welcoming remarks by Rory J. Respicio, General Manager of the Port Authority of Guam, who recognized representatives from the Governor's Office, fellow Pacific ports, industry leaders, the Port Board of Directors, and federal partners, emphasizing the significance and origins of the Clean Ports Program, which stem from the Port's earlier sustainability initiatives including the Zero Waste Study with First Gentleman Jeff Cook, the Recycling Enterprise Zone law, and the development of the Zero Emissions Strategy conducted by Jacobs. These initiatives, guided by the policy direction of the Board and supported through the early coordination of Vice Chairperson Conchita S. N. Taitano, the Planning Division, and WSP, the Port's Owner Agent, established the foundation for federal recognition of the Port's environmental and energy resilience efforts; and

WHEREAS, Governor Lourdes Aflague Leon Guerrero delivered opening remarks emphasizing that the Port of Guam is the lifeline of the island's economy and a critical gateway for food, supplies, fuel, and defense support throughout the Indo Pacific region. She stressed the urgency of modernizing port infrastructure to ensure continuity of operations during typhoons, cyber risks, periods of global instability, and other natural or manmade threats. She highlighted the importance of clean and alternative energy, stronger coordination with federal and military partners, and long-term planning that prepares the Port to remain operational during war and natural disasters. The Governor also recognized that the Port's progress in the Zero Emissions Strategy and its participation in the EPA Clean Ports Program demonstrate Guam's commitment to cleaner operations, stronger resilience, and the long-term protection of the community; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant Governor Joshua F. Tenorio followed by highlighting the Summit's theme of innovation and resilience and speaking to the strategic importance of the Port of Guam as the central platform for humanitarian aid, commercial activity, military logistics, and emergency response in the Indo Pacific region. He emphasized the existing strong coordination among local agencies, federal partners, military commands, and private industry to ensure the Port can withstand and recover from natural disasters, cyber threats, and potential conflict scenarios. The Lieutenant Governor stressed that investments in clean and alternative energy, workforce readiness, and modern infrastructure are essential to maintain continuity of operations and prepare the Port to meet future challenges. He also underscored the importance of prioritizing daily operational needs while balancing future initiatives and noted the value of securing grants to support infrastructure and equipment acquisition, acknowledging the work already underway at the Port. He reaffirmed the administration's continued commitment to supporting these efforts; and



WHEREAS, Sharon L. Weissman, Secretary of the Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners, delivered the opening keynote address illustrating two decades of progress under the Port of Long Beach's Green Port Policy and detailing practices such as embedding environmental covenants in tenant leases and investing in clean technologies that reduced greenhouse gas emissions while enhancing productivity and economic growth; and

WHEREAS, Morning Session One featured Emily Sanders of Jacobs, who provided an overview of the Clean Ports Program's goals, Guam's sustainability history, and the strategic approach to developing a Net Zero Strategy and Implementation Plan for the Port Authority of Guam; and

WHEREAS, following Emily Sanders, Herbert Johnston of Guam Trades Academy and Ruben Landa of WSP emphasized the critical role of workforce development in achieving Clean Ports objectives and outlined training and collaboration opportunities to build a skilled labor force supporting sustainable port operations; and

WHEREAS, Morning Session Two, moderated by Nina Salek of Jacobs, focused on clean and alternative energy solutions and featured panelists John Benavente of the Guam Power Authority, Fleur de Peralta of the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Rebecca Respicio of the Guam Energy Office, and Vera Topasna of the Guam Community Defense Liaison Office; and

WHEREAS, John Benavente described the Guam Power Authority's vision for an underground energy system and investments in resilient infrastructure to stabilize rates and protect consumers while serving both civilian and military needs; and

WHEREAS, Fleur de Peralta outlined the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's ongoing research into alternative energy sources and microgrid development to support grid stability, data security, and collaboration with the Guam Power Authority; and

WHEREAS, Rebecca Respicio emphasized public education on energy resilience and the need for aligned priorities among government entities to maximize resources and proposed the Port as a demonstration site for solar and energy storage projects to maintain operations during outages; and

WHEREAS, Vera Topasna stressed the importance of interagency coordination between the Department of Defense and the Government of Guam to enhance cybersecurity, planning, and compliance for civilian infrastructure resilience; and

WHEREAS, the afternoon program featured a keynote address by Senator Jesse A. Lujan of the Thirty Eighth Guam Legislature on building data infrastructure, collaboration among government entities, and the role of Public Private Partnerships in driving modernization and investment; and

WHEREAS, the Summit included a tribute led by General Manager Respicio in honor of the late David Bell, a distinguished and forward-thinking leader whose thirty years of work in Guam advanced recycling, sustainability, and the vision for a clean, sustainable, and smart port. He was known for guiding from behind the scenes, never seeking personal acclaim, yet his influence was profound and enduring. His efforts supported the recycling revolving fund and the recycling enterprise zone at the Port, and his guidance helped shape the zero-waste study that provided the data set used to secure the competitive two point four-million-dollar Clean Ports planning grant. He championed the appointment of Conchita S. N. Taitano to the Board to advance sustainability initiatives and consistently framed the Port's environmental efforts in terms of resiliency, redundancy, and national defense readiness. Through his strategic insight and his remarkable ability to collaborate across diverse stakeholders, he played an instrumental role in ensuring that the Port's sustainability and resilience initiatives remain foundational to the Port's long-term future; and

WHEREAS, subsequent sessions featured panel discussions on port modernization and infrastructure resilience with John Cruz Jr. of the Guam Power Authority, Clarence Lagutang of the Port's Capital Improvement Program, Rigo Cisneros of Jacobs, and Will Calori of the Port Users Group, who addressed energy efficiency, aging fuel piers, modernization needs, and the importance of Public Private Partnerships in restoring critical facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Summit concluded with the formal signing of an Agreement to Establish a Sister Ports Relationship between the Port of Long Beach and the Port of Guam, executed on October 22, 2025 to promote cooperation, information sharing, and mutual benefit in the areas of trade development, infrastructure development, city port relations, environmental sustainability, and technology; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement establishes a framework for collaboration that includes exchanging information on sustainable infrastructure, environmental programs, and the adoption of clean technology, cooperating to identify new cargoes and trade routes, coordinating on marketing efforts to shipping lines, and facilitating personnel exchanges, site visits, and technical meetings to strengthen best management practices and professional development; and



WHEREAS, the Agreement provides that the parties will bear their own costs resulting from these activities, including travel, and that specific projects or programs requiring financial or staff commitments shall be subject to the approval of each party's governing authority; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement also calls for the designation of a contact person at each port to coordinate cooperative activities and maintain communication, establishes an initial five-year duration, and allows renewal by mutual written consent of both parties; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement was signed on behalf of the Port of Long Beach by Chief Executive Officer Mario Cordero and on behalf of the Port of Guam by Chairperson Dorothy P. Harris, with Sharon L. Weissman, Secretary of the Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners, and Conchita S. N. Taitano, Vice Chairperson of the Port Authority of Guam Board of Directors, serving as honorary witnesses; and

WHEREAS, the After-Action Report prepared by Jacobs staff, namely Terra Miller Cassman, Emily Sanders, Kim Wetzel, Wren McNally, and Rigo Cisneros, documents the Summit's outcomes including best practices, lessons learned, and forward actions in collaboration, energy resilience, modernization, workforce development, and interagency coordination; and

WHEREAS, the After-Action Report includes supporting attachments consisting of the attendee registration list, agenda, survey results, live polling outcomes, media coverage, and event photos, collectively documenting the scope and success of the Summit; and

WHEREAS, Section Two of the After-Action Report identifies best practices and lessons learned from both logistical and technical perspectives and highlights media coverage and stakeholder feedback that praised the Summit as a model for future engagement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors recognizes the contributions of all Port Authority of Guam divisions whose coordination, support, and day to day operational readiness made the Maritime Resilience and Innovation Summit possible. The Board affirms that the success of the Summit reflects the collective efforts of the Port's entire workforce, whose professionalism and collaboration ensured a well executed and impactful event; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors recognizes that the EPA Clean Ports Program planning grant builds upon the Port Authority of Guam's longstanding sustainability initiatives, including the Zero Waste Study, the proposed Recycling Enterprise Zone, and the development of the Zero Emissions Strategy. These initiatives, led by the Planning Division in coordination with the Port's consultant partners, laid the technical and policy foundation for the Clean Ports Program. They positioned the Port to secure federal recognition and funding support for projects advancing environmental stewardship, energy resilience, and maritime sustainability; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors acknowledges Vice Chairperson Conchita S. N. Taitano for her early involvement in the conceptual stages of the EPA Clean Ports Program planning grant and her continuing leadership in aligning sustainability and modernization efforts with the Port's Master Plan. The Board further recognizes the technical groundwork established through the Planning Division's early collaboration with WSP, which provided the framework for the successful grant award and its ongoing implementation under Jacobs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors acknowledges Chief Planner Joe Javellana and the Planning staff for their leadership, coordination, and sustained efforts from the inception of the EPA Clean Ports Program planning grant through the successful organization and hosting of the Maritime Resilience and Innovation Summit. Their involvement from the early stages of the grant application, development, and implementation planning has been instrumental in guiding the Port's initiatives in resilience, sustainability, and modernization; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Port Authority of Guam hereby adopts the Maritime Resilience and Innovation Summit After Action Report as the official record of the event and endorses its documentation of the Summit's presentations, discussions, and findings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors acknowledges Section Three of the Maritime Resilience and Innovation Summit After Action Report, titled Opportunities and Next Steps, as a factual summary of ideas highlighted from the Summit. The Board memorializes this section as part of the official record for informational purposes only and affirms that these items reflect stakeholder input and consultant observations rather than Port commitments, policy positions, or funding authorizations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors acknowledges that the information, discussions, and cooperative frameworks memorialized through the Summit and Sister Ports Agreement will serve as references for future dialogue, planning, and coordination consistent with the Port's mission and statutory authority; and



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors honors the memory of David Bell and recognizes his lasting contributions to recycling, sustainability, and the development of the Port’s zero waste, clean energy, and resilience initiatives. His work strengthened the Port’s ability to secure federal support, including the competitive two point four-million-dollar Clean Ports planning grant, and advanced the long-term vision for a clean, sustainable, and smart port. The Board expresses appreciation for the tribute led by General Manager Respicio during the Summit and affirms that David Bell’s guidance, partnership, and values will continue to shape the Port’s efforts in environmental stewardship, resilience, modernization, and long-term planning; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors commends the Port management team, Jacobs Engineering, and all Summit participants for their leadership in advancing maritime resilience, innovation, and sustainability for Guam and the Pacific region, and directs that this Resolution be transmitted to Governor Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, Lieutenant Governor Joshua F. Tenorio, Senator Jesse A. Lujan, First Gentleman Jeff Cook and the Zero Waste Task Force, and pertinent federal and local stakeholders, including the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Maritime Administration, the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation, University of Guam, and the UOG Center for Island Sustainability Guam Green Growth Initiative (G3); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chairperson certify to, and the Secretary attest to, the passage of this Resolution and that a copy be transmitted to the family of the late David Bell in recognition of his lasting contributions to recycling, zero waste, and sustainability initiatives for Guam and our island’s region.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS THIS 21st DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2025.**


DOROTHY P. HARRIS
Chairperson, Board of Directors
Port Authority of Guam
FE R. VALENCIA-OVALLES
Secretary, Board of Directors
Port Authority of Guam