



Illinois International Port District Landing Dock Safety and Efficiency Project Chicago, IL

Project I.D. Number: EAXX-021-70-000-1734709880

The U.S. Maritime Administration (MARAD) awarded funds to the Illinois International Port District (IIPD) under the Fiscal Year 2024 Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) for the Landing Dock Safety and Efficiency Project. The project includes rehabilitation of the dock wall, construction of three heavy lift areas, and installation of rail spur at the Iroquois Landing Lakefront Terminal located in Chicago, Illinois.

The purpose of the project is to ensure the long-term operation of the Iroquois Landing Lakefront Terminal and keep the Calumet River channel accessible while preventing potential catastrophic collapse of the dock wall, which would disrupt the navigation of vessels through a crucial link between the inland-river system (the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers), the Gulf of America, the Great Lakes, St. Lawrence Seaway, and the global supply chain.

The deteriorating port infrastructure creates safety issues for navigation and inefficiencies in port operations. Faulty bollard systems have the potential for vessels to break loose from moorings and be sent downriver at high speeds.

Logistical goals that this project aims to achieve include increasing the amount of dock wall available for docking vessels, thus increasing the Port's capacity for accommodating larger vessels; constructing three heavy lift areas, thus increasing the Port's capacity to accommodate infrastructure and equipment for container transloading; and constructing 1,700 linear feet of rail spur, thus increasing the rail capacity at the site. Additionally, this project will facilitate improvements in worker and freight safety, extreme weather resilience, workforce development in a historically economically disadvantaged community, and the Port's ability to increase project cargo, servicing new initiatives around innovative sectors.

With the project's approximately \$52.5 million funding package comprising \$34.5 million in federal PIDP funds and \$18.0 million in non-federal matching funds (IDOT), IIPD is positioned to advance design, permitting, and phased construction following completion of environmental review and execution of the MARAD grant agreement. Construction is planned to begin in 2027, with substantial completion of the dock wall and rail improvements targeted by the end of 2029.