

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Lauren McCormick, Public Affairs Manager

Phone: (979) 233-2667 ext. 4306

Email: mccormick@portfreeport.com

**PORT FREEPORT RECEIVES AAPA COMMUNICATIONS
AWARD OF EXCELLENCE**

FREEPORT, TX (August 12, 2019) – Port Freeport was recently honored with an Award of Excellence in the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) 2019 Communications Awards Program for their entry in the Overall Campaign category. The Port’s entry highlighted the 2018 Port Freeport Bond Package Informational Campaign.

The Communications Program awards member ports for their strategic communications through peer-reviewed analyses of programs and projects and by showcasing best practices and lessons learned. The 2019 AAPA Communications Awards Program relied on 32 professional public relations practitioners from the Washington, D.C. area who cumulatively spent 128 hours over two weeks judging the entries. This year, the program received a total of 79 entries.

“It’s an honor for Port Freeport to be recognized by its peers in communication on a national platform. The Public Affairs team works with Port Commission and staff to keep the Port’s key audiences informed of progress toward our strategic initiatives,” said Phyllis Saathoff, Port Freeport Executive Director/CEO. “The success of the Bond Package Informational Campaign plays a significant role in the advancement of the initiative to deepen and widen the Freeport Harbor Channel.”

Port Freeport’s entry highlighted the comprehensive campaign used to fully inform the community of the 2018 bond package and the Freeport Harbor Channel Improvement Project. The campaign included multiple press releases, a micro-website, printed informational materials, community presentations, and media coverage.

“On behalf of the Port Commissioners, I would like to congratulate the Public Affairs team for winning this award. The ongoing communications efforts and shared vision between

the Port, its partners and the community resulted in the passage of the bond issue. The Port can move forward with the Channel Project and create a legacy of continued economic opportunity and prosperity for the region to support future generations,” said Port Freeport Chairman Shane Pirtle.

Nationally, Port Freeport is ranked 10th in chemicals, 19th in total tonnage, and 26th in containers. The Freeport Harbor Channel serves BASF, Chiquita Fresh N.A., CMA CGM, Dole Fresh Fruit, The Dow Chemical Company, Freeport LNG, Hoegh Autoliners, Horizon Terminal Services, Mammoet, Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC), Phillips 66, Riviana Foods, Inc., Seaway Crude Pipeline Company, Sallaum Lines, Tenaris, and Vulcan Materials Company.

Port Freeport is committed to keeping the local community informed of our operation and results. If you have questions or comments about this article, please email or call Lauren McCormick, Public Affairs Manager.

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PHOTO CUTLINE: Port Freeport Commission and Executive Director/CEO, Phyllis Saathoff, present Port Public Affairs team the Communications Program Award of Excellence on behalf of the American Association of Port Authorities.