

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: Houston Ship Channel, TX



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG

FACT SHEET as of April 01, 2019

AUTHORIZATION: House Document 257, 89th Congress, First Session and Section 819, P.L. 99-662

TYPE OF PROJECT: Navigation

PROJECT PHASE: Operation & Maintenance



Port of Houston facilities terminal

CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST: Senators Cornyn and Cruz (TX), Representatives Crenshaw (TX-2), Fletcher (TX-7), Brady (TX-8), **A. Green (TX-9)**, McCaul (TX-10), Weber (TX-14), **Jackson-Lee (TX-18)**, Olson (TX-22), Garcia (TX-29), and **Babin (TX-36)**.

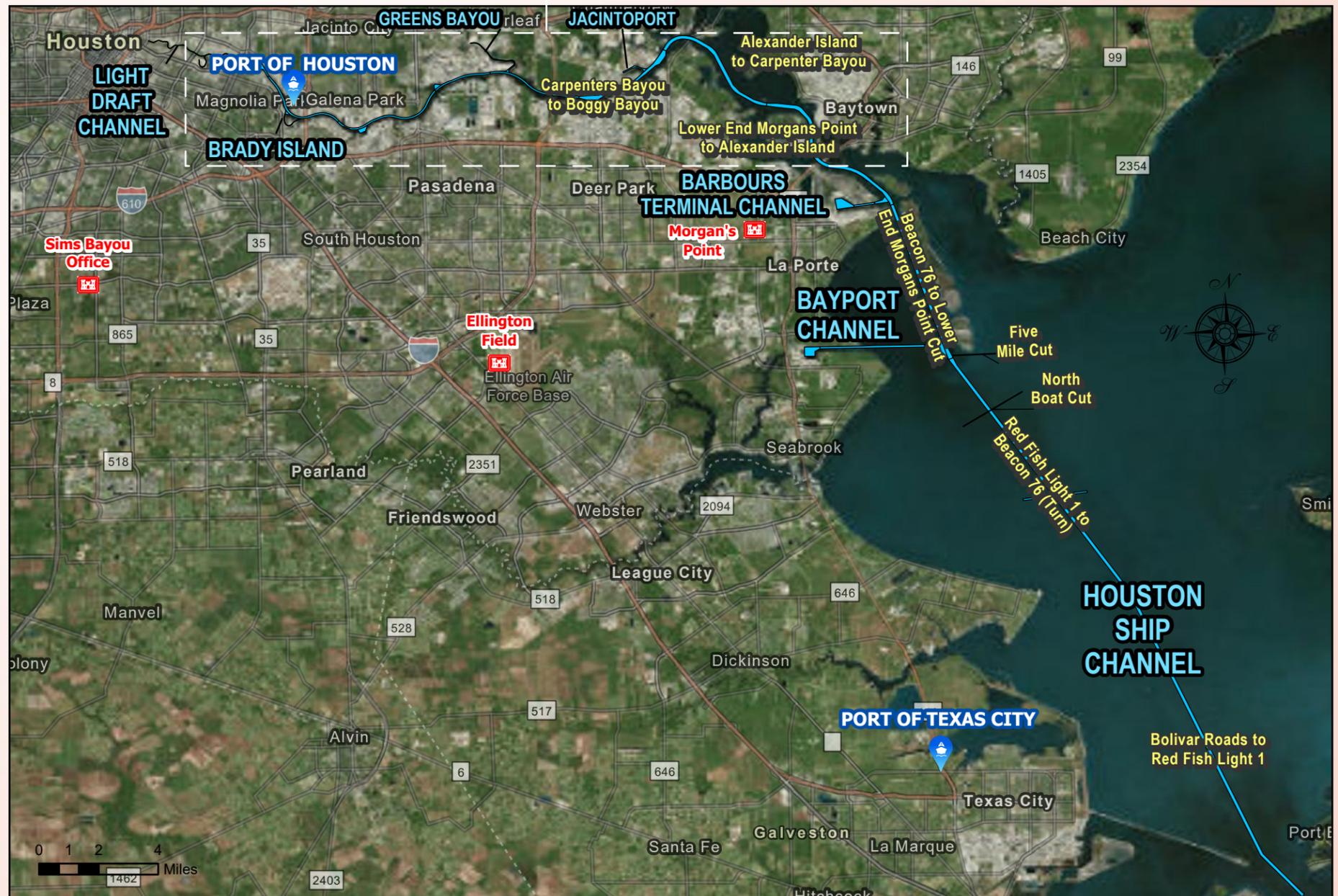
NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR: Port of Houston Authority

BACKGROUND: The Houston Ship Channel (HSC) is a deep draft navigation project consisting of a main channel with varying depths of 46-feet, 41.5-feet, & 37.5-feet by, generally, 530-feet in width by approximately 55.4 mile in length. The project extends from the Bolivar Roads channel near Galveston, Texas; north, through Galveston Bay, the San Jacinto River, and Buffalo Bayou, to the port facilities in Houston, Texas. The project also provides for two 46.5-foot deep draft channels, providing access to container terminals at Bayport and Barboours Terminal. Finally, the project provides for a deep and shallow draft channel extending 6.5 miles to the port facilities at Greens Bayou.

The Port of Houston is ranked 2nd in the nation with respect to commercial tonnage (260.1 million tons total in 2017). The principal imports and exports through the HSC include: crude fertilizers, petroleum, organic chemicals, cereal, iron and steel, machinery, plastics, vehicles and containerized cargo.

The HSC services the Port of Houston, which provides \$118 billion in annual economic benefit to the state of Texas, including more than 785,000 jobs. The HSC has 115 private and public facilities, including more than 160 deep-draft berths and a large number of barge docks and industries.

STATUS: FY 2018 activities include maintenance dredging of the following channel reaches: Bayport to Morgan's Point & Bayport Flare, Morgan's to Exxon; Placement Area (PA) improvements at Alexander Island, dewatering and Drop outlet structure replacement at PA's #14 & 15. Also, received \$9,000,000 in supplemental funding for emergency dredging of Exxon to Carpenters, and Carpenters to Sims as a result of Hurricane Harvey.



The USACE Galveston District plays a key role in America's well-being by keeping waterways open for navigation and commerce. The Galveston District is directly responsible for monitoring more than 1,000 miles of channel. Dredges are constantly at work keeping vital marine arteries open for waterborne traffic carrying cargo ranging from crude oil to coffee. Other priorities include construction of jetties or breakwaters to protect harbor and inlet entrances and the locks



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 - Navigation Channel