CITY OF CHULA VISTA

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Keeping the community connected to information, programs, and services.

Spotlighting Community Partners: Port of San Diego

On a mission to enrich the relationship people and businesses have with the dynamic waterfront of San Diego Bay, the Port of San Diego has fostered prosperity and a more remarkable way of life since 1962. On the Chula Vista Bayfront, the Port of San Diego and the City of Chula Vista are working hand-in-hand to transform and redevelop 535 acres of vacant and underutilized industrial land into a thriving recreational, residential and resort destination. Residents and visitors today enjoy newer amenities delivered by this partnership like the Sun Outdoors San Diego Bay RV Park and the Sweetwater Bicycle and Pedestrian Path. Soon, the Gaylord Pacific Resort and Convention Center and the new Sweetwater Park will also be open for all to experience.

Scheduled to open in the summer of 2025, the Gaylord Pacific Resort and Convention Center is the centerpiece and catalyst project of the Chula Vista Bayfront. Gaylord Pacific will include up to 1,600 hotel rooms, a convention center with four ballrooms, three levels of meeting space, and two outdoor meeting and event lawns, as well as multiple restaurants, a sports bar, a resort-style pool, and an array of recreational facilities. Public amenities are also included, such as pedestrian promenades, bicycle access, a variety of food and beverage offerings, game activities, a nature playground, and more. Gaylord Hotels is the large convention hotel brand of Marriott International. When constructed, this will be Gaylord Hotels' first West Coast location. With its nationally recognized brand, the Gaylord Pacific Resort and Convention Center is expected to spur more development on the 535-acre Chula Vista Bayfront.

The $15.5 million Sweetwater Park is anticipated to open in the fall. This brand-new public amenity is being built just north of Gaylord Pacific as a natural, habitat-oriented

recreational open space to showcase the unique natural wildlife assets of San Diego Bay, encouraging passive activities to complement the adjacent Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge. The Port is also working to expand Bayside Park and add new public amenities. More on that to come. Stay tuned!

In the meantime, the Port is repaving the parking lots at and around Chula Vista Bayfront Park. This $1.45 million project, part of the Port's yearly Major Maintenance Program, will be completed in four phases. Public access to the park, parking, and the boat launch ramp will be available throughout the project, which is expected to wrap up in October.

On August 24, 2024, the Port is again sponsoring the San Diego Working Waterfront's annual Operation Clean Sweep. Marina View Park is the gathering and starting point. Community members are invited to join in to help clean up the bayfront. For more information and to register as a volunteer, go to sdworkingwaterfront.com/EVENTS/OPERATION-CLEAN-SWEEP.

The Port is also a proud sponsor of Chula Vista's annual South Bay Earth Day, which is supported under the Port's Tidelands Activation Programs (TAP) and is one of the many diverse, community-based events the Port supports every year along the San Diego Bay waterfront. Another TAP-supported event in Chula Vista this year was part of the Port's "A Day at the Park" series. Held on June 29 at Bayfront Park, 1,300 attendees enjoyed free performances by local artists, local food vendors, a kid's zone with activities, and more.

As an innovative, global seaport courageously supporting commerce, community, and the environment, the Port of San Diego enjoys a collaborative partnership with the City of Chula Vista. Together, the Port and City are delivering on the community's vision of a Chula Vista Bayfront with new and expanded public parks, fun and exciting recreational adventures, an improved and enhanced natural habitat, more dining and shopping options, a world-class hotel and convention center, and more – all for residents and coastal visitors to enjoy. For more information and updates, go to portofsandiego.org/chulavistabayfront.