

**INTEGRATED PLANNING PORT MASTER PLAN UPDATE BACKGROUND**

Pursuant to the San Diego Unified Port District Act of 1962 (Port Act), the District holds certain tidelands and submerged lands of the San Diego Bay in trust for the people of California and is responsible for the conservation, planning, and development of those lands. As such, it is the duty of the District to oversee public and private investment on the tidelands in a manner that best serves the public trust. To assist in this mission, Section 19 of the Port Act requires that the District adopt a Port Master Plan for improvements and the use of the public trust lands held by the District. The Port Master Plan serves as a planning blueprint to assess development proposals and conserve important natural resources in and around San Diego Bay.

The District has engaged in an Integrated Planning process, which is a multi-faceted and comprehensive approach to the District's future. Integrated Planning includes various potential components, including, but not limited to, land and water use planning, a fiscal growth and sustainability framework, environmental initiatives, and leasing policies. One component of Integrated Planning is an update to the Port Master Plan. The update is being accomplished through a comprehensive, integrated, bay-wide approach that eventually, when and if an updated Port Master Plan is adopted by the Board, will control the type and characteristics of development, recreation, and conservation throughout the District's jurisdiction well into the second half of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Based on the legislation that created the District, the common law created and statutorily implemented Public Trust Doctrine, and the geographic location of the District, the updated Master Plan must be consistent with the Port Act, the Public Trust Doctrine, and the California Coastal Act (for the portion of the District in the coastal zone). Hence, an updated Port Master Plan must ensure the continued protection and advancement of commerce, navigation, and fisheries, as well as environmental conservation, coastal access, and recreation for all of the public.

When the Board adopted its Compass Strategic Plan and the goal for "*A Port with a comprehensive vision for Port land and water uses integrated to regional plans,*" the Board recognized the need to move away from project-specific planning to a more holistic long-range view that is integrated with other regional planning efforts.