

**Port sets meeting on deepening project
Input sought on proposed work to enhance navigation**

According to a report from the US on 8 February the public has been invited to a meeting on 13 February for the Port of Long Beach Deep Draft Navigation Feasibility Study and Channel Deepening Project. Participants will be able to submit comments and suggestions about the project.

This is a joint effort between the Port of Long Beach and the US Army Corps of Engineers to evaluate potential improvements to the harbour. (*See port photo kindly provided by Port of Long Beach www.polb.com ©*).

A comprehensive feasibility study and joint Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement will be prepared for this project. The purpose of the meeting is to gather input from the public regarding which environmental issues should be examined as part of the joint document.

As part of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process, an initial Notice of Preparation was released in 2016 for this project. The Amended Notice of Preparation, released at the end of January reflects a new project title and removes a previous plan to dredge the port's Southeast Basin.

Eventually the port's study will evaluate the economic benefits, costs, increased transport efficiencies and improved navigational safety that would result from the dredging project, which aims to deepen channels, basins and waiting areas for ships calling at the port of Long Beach.

The Amended Notice of Preparation for the proposed project is available online at: www.polb.com/ceqa