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**PORT OF PALM BEACH AND CONGRESSMAN ALLEN WEST  
SEE INVESTMENT IN SEAPORT INFRASTRUCTURE AS CRUCIAL**

RIVIERA BEACH, Fla. – Congressman Allen West took a moment from his busy schedule this week to tour the Port of Palm Beach and discuss their future infrastructure plans, which includes a \$34 million renovation project for Slip #3.

Meeting with Port tenants and users, Congressman West said, “The Port of Palm Beach is vital to our South Florida community and vital to the future of the U.S. Commerce. With the potential for new foreign trade agreements with countries like South Korea and Panama, it is crucial to continue exploring opportunities to improve and expand our seaport infrastructure.”

“As a major economic engine for all of Palm Beach County, the Port must strive to enhance operations and advance all efforts to be able to capture emerging markets well beyond those of the 21<sup>st</sup> century,” said Wayne M. Richards, Chairman of the Port of Palm Beach Board of Commissioners. “With Capitol Hill currently considering Foreign Trade Agreements with South Korea, Colombia and Panama, we are hopeful that Congress will recognize the crucial nature of this project as an integral part of the future of the Port of Palm Beach.”

“We are definitely encouraged by the support Congress has shown for the pending Foreign Trade Agreements and believe progressing forward with this project is not only an investment in Port’s future but the economic recovery as well,” said Manuel Almira, the Port’s Executive Director. “Not only will the project assist us with our future cargo needs, it will also provide additional revenue opportunities through operational enhancements that will ultimately result in cost savings for the Port and its users.”

AECOM is expected to present their study findings for the redesign of Slip #3 at the Port’s July 21, 2011 Regular Board Meeting.

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