



Media Contact
Yaremi Farinas
yfarinas@portofpalmbeach.com
561-383-4138

**Governor Ron DeSantis recommends more than
\$258 million in relief for seaports**

Riviera Beach, Florida – March 19, 2021 – This week Governor Ron DeSantis released his federal stimulus budget recommendations, which appropriates \$258.2 million for Florida’s seaports. The Port of Palm Beach District is thankful Governor DeSantis recognizes the economic relief seaports need to weather this storm.

“Like many other Florida seaports, the Port of Palm Beach was hit hard by the pandemic, despite remaining open and operational throughout the past year. The Port lost \$2 million in cruise business revenue, we’ve experienced a decrease of more than 170,000 tons of cargo due to the drastic decline in tourism in the Caribbean and we’ve lost one tenant as a result of the pandemic” said Port Executive Director Manuel Almira.

Governor DeSantis’ recommendations could potentially help the Port of Palm Beach continue its recovery efforts by moving forward with critical infrastructure projects that strengthen the economy and keep essential cargo moving.

“Our focus remains the same. We need to keep the supply chain moving in order to give people the goods they rely on. Especially those who live in the Caribbean Basin and depend on us in their everyday lives,” said Port of Palm Beach Board Chairman Joseph Anderson.

About Port of Palm Beach

Located in Riviera Beach, the Port of Palm Beach is a full-service, diversified port, offering cruise and cargo services to more than 30 onsite tenants and users. At 162 acres, the Port’s efficiency is unparalleled, processing more than \$7 billion in commodities, 2.5 million tons of cargo, and 500,000 cruise passengers annually. As one of the largest employers in Palm Beach County, the Port of Palm Beach and its tenants employ more than 2,850 people. Through the contribution of more than \$185 million in business revenue and \$17.5 million in tenant-contributed state and local annual tax revenue, the Port of Palm Beach is a large economic engine in South Florida. For more information, visit www.portofpalmbeach.com.

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