

The Art of the Possible

Port of Beaumont Rail Improvements

**2009 Texas Ports & Waterways
Conference**

September 2-4, 2009

Omni Corpus Christi Hotel

Port of Beaumont



Existing rail facilities

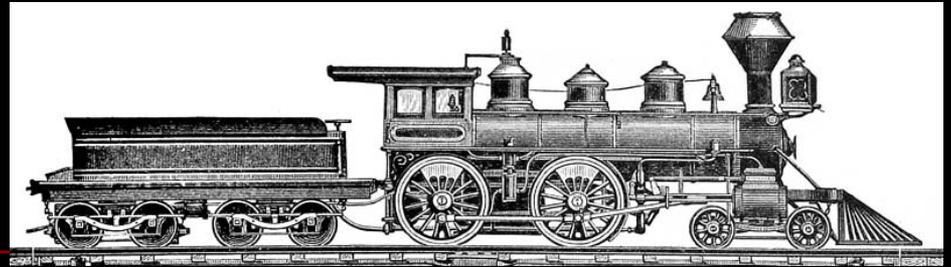
Port of Beaumont



- 108,800 track feet
- 110-car interchange yard
- Grain elevator hold yard
- 2 railcar loading ramps
- Served by BNSF, UP and KCS
- \pm 30,000 cars/year

History

Rail Improvement Project



- Mid-1990's: Discussions of removal of riverside tracks
- July, 1999: First feasibility study completed
- 1999-2005: Port/railroads review alternative plans
- 2003-2005: Port secures 80% funding
- 2005: TxDOT study affirms project's feasibility
- 2007-2009: Design/operational plan
- July, 2009: TxDOT gives final approval to project
- August, 2009: Port advertises for bids

Objectives

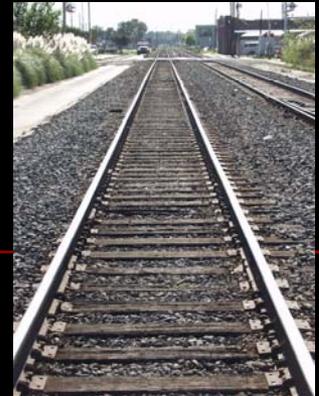
Rail Improvement Project



- Direct access to/from main rail line
- Improve speed & efficiency of switching
- Reduce rail congestion on the main line
- Reduce vehicular traffic delays in downtown area
- Provide secure interchange yard for military
- Open riverfront property for redevelopment
- Produce alternative that attracts federal funding

Planned improvements

Rail Improvement Project



- Increased capacity
- Continuous track to allow receipt of full unit trains
- AEI readers for improved efficiency
- Portable air to avoid blocking crossing
- Double capacity to store railcars
- 150% increase in vehicle loading ramps
- Entire interchange facility inside secure perimeter

Port of Beaumont Rail Facilities



History

Rail Improvement Project



- 1916: Rail switching agreement with carriers
- 1949: Navigation district takes over port operations
- 1963: City/state/port rail relocation project
- 1986: Port assumes rail switching responsibility
- 1999: First draft of rail improvement project

Sources of funds

Rail Improvement Project



CMAQ grant: \$ 7,004,000

SAFETEA-LU: \$ 5,190,400

\$ 12,194,400

Estimated cost of project: \$16,000,000

Receiving and dispatching railcars under the new plan



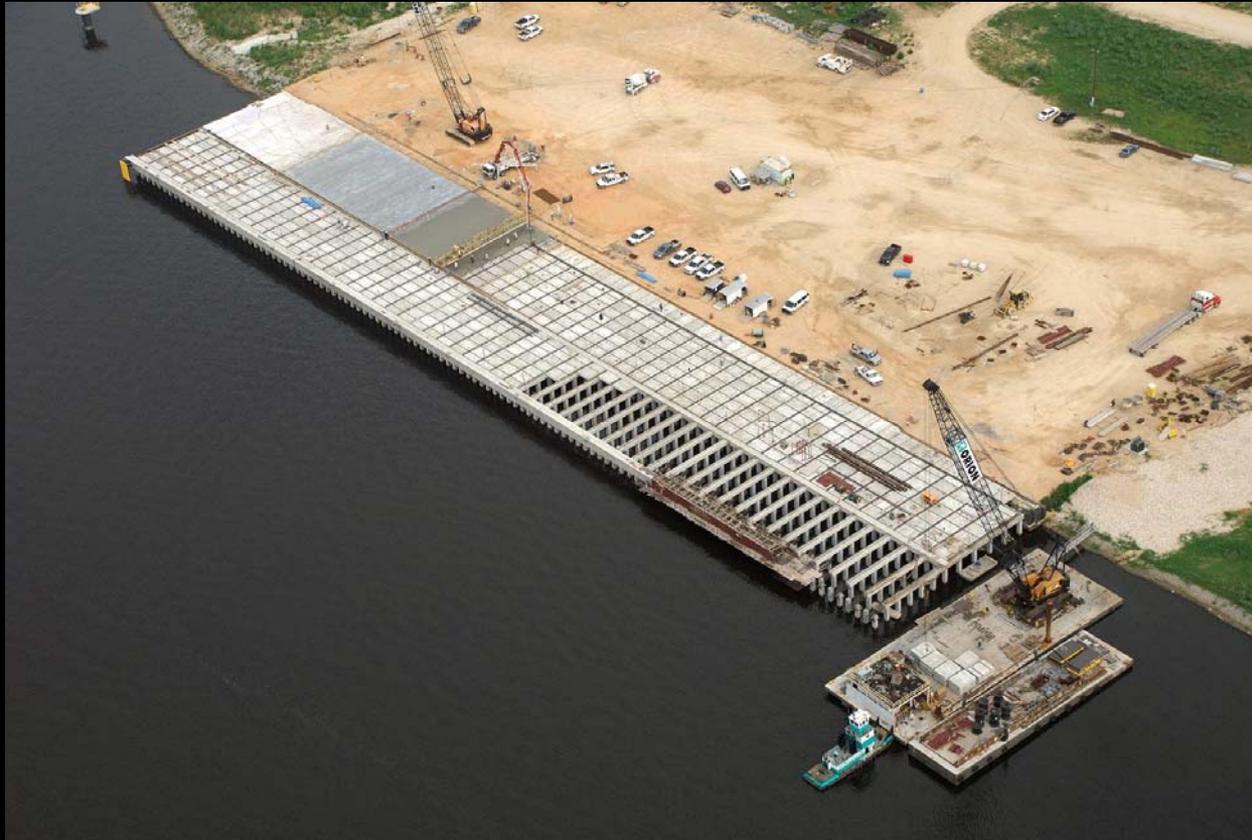
Design features

Rail Improvement Project



- Minimize use of crossing diamond
- Receive and dispatch full trains
- Net gain of 30,200 track feet
- Improved efficiency and speed
- Increase number of loading ramps for military
- Improved security

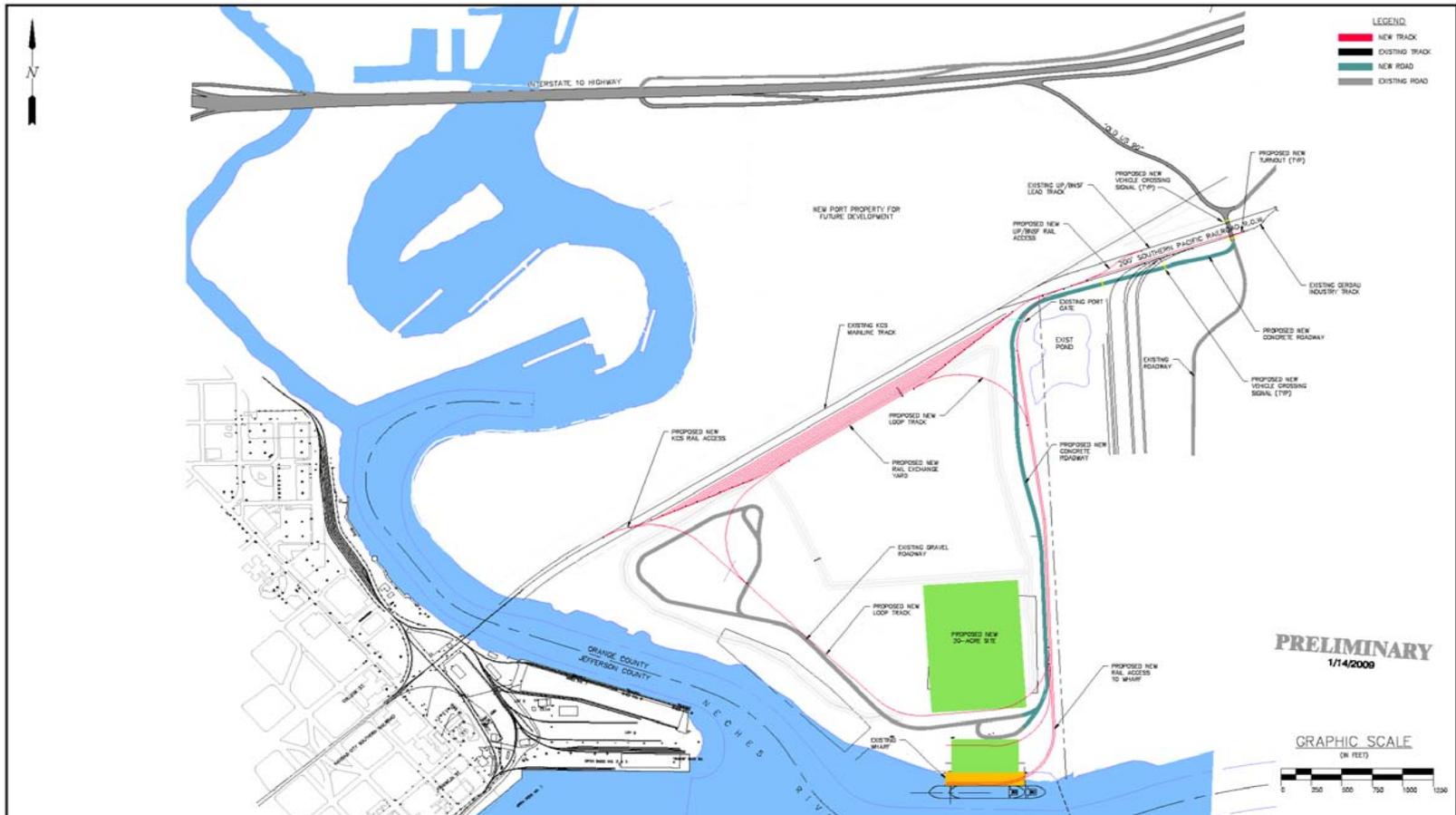
Port of Beaumont Orange County wharf project



Port of Beaumont Orange County property



Orange County Development



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REV	DATE	BY	DESCRIPTION

THIS PLAN HAS BEEN PREPARED UNDER MY CLOSE PERSONAL SUPERVISION, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE IT COMPLIES WITH ALL REQUIREMENTS.

DATE: JUN 08
SCALE: 1/4"=1'-0"
DESIGN: DLG
DRAWN: DEK
CHECK: BJC
APPROV'D: JSC
CAD NO: JMS-MAY

PORT OF BEAUMONT
BEAUMONT TEXAS

**ORANGE COUNTY PROPERTY
PROPOSED NEW RAIL
SITE PLAN**

SHEET NO.
7981-09

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NEVER GIVE UP!



Questions



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Port of Beaumont
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