

2018: A Year of Growth for Connecticut's Waters

M/S Hebridean Sky, May 2018.



The Connecticut Port Authority has seen an impressive year of growth for Connecticut's maritime economy. In 2018, we saw new investments in our deepwater ports, the start of major rejuvenation projects at our small recreational harbors and international acknowledgment that Connecticut is poised to grow into an economic center with opportunities in shipping and supply chain.

In 2018, the CPA adopted the Connecticut Maritime Strategy, which will serve as a roadmap for CPA's investment decisions and resource allocations over the next five years. The strategy sets out eight key goals as the CPA leads the mission to expand Connecticut's maritime economy and create jobs through strategic investment in the state's three deepwater ports and small harbors.

In May, the M/S Hebridean Sky docked in New London, making it the first passenger cruise ship to use the port of New London since 2014. Approximately 100 passengers disembarked for a trip to Essex and a ride on the Essex Steam Train. The ship was on a week-long cruise from New York to Halifax, Nova Scotia. New London was its first stop on the voyage. Preparations for the event were a great example of interagency cooperation among the many stakeholders involved, and the effort would not have succeeded without the invaluable contributions and commitment of the great team at the Coast Guard's Sector Long Island Sound. As a result of that team effort, the U.S. Coast Guard approved the Facility Security Plan (FSP) in the final hours of the business day prior to the ship's arrival. The approved FSP allowed the foreign-flagged

Hebridean Sky to dock at City Pier, rather than anchor offshore and tender passengers to the pier.

The CPA saw internal growth in 2018 with the addition of two new team members to assist in maintaining and building on the growing projects and responsibilities of the CPA. Andrew Lavigne joined as Manager of Business Development and Special Projects responsible for stakeholder engagement, marketing, research and communications. Cassandra Berthiaume also joined as Finance Administrative Assistant and provides expert accounting and financial services support to the CPA's portfolio of state and regional level projects.

This year also saw the CPA taking on a leadership role in the global maritime economy through the training and certification of port executives through the International Association of Maritime & Port Executives (IAMPE) Professional Certification Program.

Finally, the CPA is currently hard at work progressing major projects and agreements that will continue the state's growth into 2019. CPA is negotiating with candidates for the next port operator of State Pier and evaluating proposals for improvements to Pier 7 at Fort Trumbull. We look forward to providing further updates on these RFPs and many more projects in 2019.

From everyone at the CPA, we look forward to continuing all of our work with our partners in 2019, and wish everyone a safe and prosperous new year.



Improving Our Small Harbors for the Future

When people hear about the Connecticut Port Authority (CPA), it's not uncommon to think of massive cargo ships coming and going from the three deepwater ports in Bridgeport, New Haven and New London. However, supporting the economic viability of Connecticut's large ports is only one part of CPA's responsibilities. CPA also has a commitment to the numerous small harbors that are a part of Connecticut's shoreline and riverways.

The Support Small Harbor Improvements Project Program (SHIPP) provides matching grant-in-aid funds to small harbor improvement projects in fulfillment of CPA's mission to strategically invest in development opportunities that enhance the state's recreational marine industry. These investments fund the restoration, maintenance, and improvement of Connecticut's town and regional harbors by awarding funds based on need and impact on Connecticut's recreational marine economy.

To date, SHIPP has fueled construction and redevelopment in dozens of harbors across Connecticut, such as funding the replacement of the Norwalk Visitor Docks at Veterans Memorial Park and providing a grant to update Fairfield's Southport Harbor Management Plan. Through these investments, Connecticut's maritime economy continues to grow for towns and all regions of the state.

The next round of applications for SHIPP is expected to open in early 2019. For more information, visit ctportauthority.com.

Did you know?

In 2017, the State Bond Commission approved over \$4 million in funds through SHIPP for 18 projects in 17 towns and cities throughout Connecticut. Projects include: construction and reconstruction of visitors' docks; studies and/or construction of new boat ramps; and updating of local harbor management plans.



CPA is excited to be an exhibitor at the Hartford Boat Show at Mohegan Sun's brand-new Earth Expo & Convention Center from January 17-20, 2019. We look forward to seeing all attendees at the CPA pavilion. For more information about the Hartford Boat Show, visit: www.hartfordboatshow.com.

IN THE NEWS

How Smart Shippers are Using Deepwater Improvements

December 28, Global Trade Magazine

New London Port Faces Dynamic Decade

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Orsted, Eversource tout proposal, plans for New London

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