



NEWS RELEASE

Monday, August 31, 2020

City of Port Aransas and Port of Corpus Christi Reach Settlement on Harbor Island

Port Aransas, TX – The City of Port Aransas and the Port of Corpus Christi have reached an agreement on how to best move forward with the Harbor Island development, amicably resolving the pending litigation between the two parties.

The agreement effectively ends the pending litigation between the Parties and clears the path for the Port Authority to continue its plans to develop Harbor Island in concert with the City. Port and City leaders have been in settlement negotiations for months. The City of Port Aransas City Council authorized the approval of the agreement by a 7-0 vote on August 20. The Port Commission authorized the Port Chairman and the CEO to finalize the settlement agreement on July 21.

"For a number of years, the City and Port Authority have been fighting over matters regarding each entity's respective regulatory powers, and how conflicts between such powers should be resolved. This costly fight has recently spilled over into the courts. But, finally, by entering into an interlocal agreement the Port and the City now have a workable framework in place to address development on Harbor Island, including oversight on city ordinance and permitting issues, and funding provisions to address fire protection and emergency services. The agreement also ends all of the litigation between the City and the Port. Hopefully, this agreement can serve as a springboard for continued discussions with the Port on Harbor Island and on other matters of mutual concern between the Port and the City. The City is pleased to have resolved these issues and looks forward to continuing to address related matters of concern to the City's residents" said **Charles Bujan, Mayor of the City of Port Aransas.**

Said **Sean Strawbridge, Chief Executive Officer for the Port of Corpus Christi.** "We value our relationships with the local municipalities," and "We thank Mayor Bujan, the entire City Council, and City Manager Dave Parsons for their leadership."

Said **Charles W. Zahn, Port of Corpus Christi Commission Chairman.** "We are excited to continue collaborating with the City of Port Aransas."