

**Santa Cruz Port District**  
**2025 California Marine Affairs and Navigation Conference (CMANC)**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**February 10-13, 2025**

**Conference Debrief by Port Director MacLaurie**

The California Marine Affairs and Navigation Conference (CMANC) is a consortium of California harbors, ports, and marine interest groups dedicated to maintaining a well-integrated system of ports and harbors along the state's coastline. While the needs of individual harbors may vary, CMANC fosters collaboration among its members—both large and small—to highlight the interdependence of California's maritime network and the critical, unique role each harbor and port plays in supporting the state's economy and coastal infrastructure.

The annual CMANC conference in Washington DC was held February 10-13, 2025. Vice-chair Geisreiter and I attended the annual conference and represented the Port District in meetings with legislators and legislative staff, as well as other agency staff members, including the Office of Management and Budget, USACE Chief of Navigation and South Pacific Division Regional Integration Team, and House and Senate Energy & Water Appropriations Committee members.

Regular attendance at the annual meetings and conferences has strengthened the Port District's relationships with key agency staff and legislators who make critical decisions regarding USACE program funding and allocations. Additionally, it builds strong connections among member ports and harbors, serving as a valuable platform for information sharing and collective advocacy.

Vice-chair Geisreiter and I participated in the following meetings:

<b>Tuesday, February 11, 2025</b>	USACE Civil Works Office of Management and Budget (Water & Power Branch)
<b>Wednesday, February 12, 2025</b>	Senate Energy & Water Appropriations Subcommittee Office of Senator Schiff Office of Rep. Josh Harder Office of Rep. Kevin Mullin Office of Rep. Ted Lieu Office of Rep. Robert Garcia Office of Rep. Jimmy Panetta Office of Rep. Jared Huffman

During meetings with USACE Civil Works and the Office of Management and Budget, we discussed the upcoming renewal of the Port District's Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), highlighting the District's longstanding and successful partnership with the Corps, as well as our demonstrated ability to perform maintenance dredging of the federal entrance channel since 1986. Key personnel within Corps Headquarters were alerted that the Port District's renewal MOA arrived in DC on Monday, February 10, 2025.

Meetings with California Representatives were beneficial and helped reinforce messaging that what is good for California ports and harbors is good for the nation's economy.