



City of New Bedford
Jonathan F. Mitchell, Mayor

City of New Bedford
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P R E S S R E L E A S E

New Bedford Port Director Named Chair of National Port Association's Economic Development Committee

New Bedford, Massachusetts – The director of the Port of New Bedford, America's number one fishing port, has been named Chair of the American Association of Port Authorities' (AAPA) Maritime Economic Development Committee. The AAPA is a national association that serves as the unified voice of the seaport industry in the Americas and includes more than 130 public port authorities in the United States, Canada, the Caribbean and Latin America who work together to promote their common interests.

New Bedford Port Director Edward Anthes-Washburn will represent the Port of New Bedford and work to promote the role of America's ports in economic development within their communities.

"The Port of New Bedford is the center of the commercial fishing industry on the East Coast, the launching pad for America's offshore wind industry, and a dynamic and diverse economic engine for Massachusetts. The naming of our Port Director, Ed Anthes-Washburn, to an important leadership role at the AAPA is a recognition of the national significance of our port, and Ed's exemplary work in helping develop it into its full potential," said Mayor Jon Mitchell.

"As director of the most valuable fishing port in the country, I am honored to represent New Bedford at the national level and help further strengthen the economic impact of the Port of New Bedford, as well as ports throughout Canada and the Americas," said Anthes-Washburn.

The Maritime Economic Development Committee, which Anthes-Washburn will lead, is responsible for "monitoring, collecting, and disseminating information pertaining to the role of ports as catalysts for maritime industrial development in their communities..."

The Committee works to raise awareness of the significant role ports play in the American economy, seek innovative growth opportunities, and propose policy. The Committee stresses the importance of continued investment in the maintenance and development of port infrastructure to support continued economic growth.

“We’re excited to have Ed as the new Chair of our Maritime Economic Development Committee,” said Kurt J. Nagle, President & CEO of the American Association of Port Authorities. “Ed has been actively engaged in the work of this important committee for the past several years, and his economic development experience at the Port of New Bedford will be of great value as he leads the committee going forward.”

The Port of New Bedford is managed by the New Bedford Harbor Development Commission which aims to implement best management practices over port resources and develop economic growth strategies. To this end, it is the goal of the Harbor Development Commission to keep New Bedford on top as the #1 U.S. fishing port, expand existing businesses and capitalize on new opportunities that will maximize the Port’s potential as an economic engine to create jobs and strengthen the New Bedford economy.

The American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) is the unified voice of the seaport industry in the Americas, representing more than 130 public port authorities in the U.S., Canada, the Caribbean and Latin America. For more than a century, AAPA membership has empowered port authorities and their maritime industry partners to serve global customers and create economic and social value for their communities. Our events, resources and partnerships connect, inform and unify seaport leaders and maritime professionals who deliver prosperity around the western hemisphere. For its U.S. members, AAPA provides compelling advocacy and effective public outreach to influence seaports’ most urgent public policy issues. Today, AAPA continues to promote the common interests of the port community, and provides critical industry leadership on security, trade, transportation, infrastructure, environmental and other issues related to port development and operations.

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