



EVERYTHING TO KNOW ABOUT THE

COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND



April 2024

“ There is no commerce without community. And there is no community without commerce. ”

– Michele Jennae, Author



A LEGACY OF COMMUNITY AND COMMERCE

A ship comes to Port, tug and pilot operators bring her in, a skilled local ILWU crane operator offloads the cargo, Customs workers make sure the cargo is secure, and a trucker picks it up. All of these workers enjoy breakfast and lunch at local establishments and then head to local stores for supplies. The cargo then goes to retail, where Joe and Mary just got jobs to provide for their families. Their kids go to a school whose teachers prepare them for the future, and law enforcement keeps them safe.



Since its inception in 1937, the Port of Hueneme has embraced a legacy of trade and community enrichment. Throughout this history, the Port and its customers directly or indirectly have provided thousands of jobs to community residents, supported many local business enterprises, and participated in a diversity of community events and activities. In addition to the positive economic impacts, Port customers pay their share for doing business here. The Port does not receive funding from taxpayers for operations, but rather runs off payments from its customers. Approximately 10% of this revenue is in turn provided to the City of Port Hueneme through negotiated agreements. These funds, totaling over \$2.6 million in fiscal year 2023, support City infrastructure and public services, and also mitigate the impacts of Port operations.

THE FORMATION OF THE COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

IT'S ALL ABOUT COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIP FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT

Through the course of time there are moments when questions are asked, and debates ensue. This was the case in 2013 when the City brought forth a legal challenge contending that Port's revenue sharing payments to the City were miscalculated. After 2 years of litigation, the City and the Port came to common ground and opted to settle the dispute on friendly terms outside the courts. A resulting settlement agreement in 2015 created a win-win for both parties.

The first collective win was a land transaction. For a payment of \$1.1 million, a 2-acre property lease to the City was dissolved 18 years in advance of its termination date, making that land available for Port use and new commerce opportunities. At the time, the City was faced with financial hardship and the \$1.1 million installment helped address budget shortfalls.

The other mutual win that evolved out of this landmark settlement included the creation of a Community Benefit Fund (CBF). The City and Port established this fund to re-energize their tradition of partnership and collectively agreed that working on projects together would foster unity and collaboration with the most impactful and meaningful results for the community. In this spirit of partnership, the City Council and the Board of Harbor Commissioners agreed to meet regularly and develop projects for the betterment of the community using allocations from the CBF. The agreement spells out that in years when the Port generates over \$13M in revenue, it allocates \$100,000 to a restricted CBF account for the purpose of investing in community projects and initiatives that are mutually agreed upon by the City and Port. To date, \$1,005,247 has been allocated by the Port to the CBF for this altruistic cause.

THE PROCESS FOR TO INVEST IN MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL PROJECTS

The settlement agreement of 2015 established a process to ensure the spirit of partnership and collaboration among the Board of Harbor Commissioners and City Council members was upheld. The agreement requires that the City and Port each appoint three representatives (two members of the elected Harbor Commissioner Board and City Council and one member of the staff for each party), who will meet within 180 days following the start of any new fiscal year in those years that there is a positive balance of money deposited in the CBF. The Port and City representatives are tasked with mutually deciding on whether to spend any of the CBF on a project(s) that year, and if so, which project or projects will be selected for the expenditures. The decisions of the representatives will then be subject to approval of both the full Board of Harbor Commissioners and the entire City Council. If the representatives are unable to agree on expenditures for the CBF in a given year, the agreement calls on the City Council and Board of Harbor Commissioners to convene a joint meeting to discuss proposed projects in an open session with members of the public. If the City and Port do not agree after 3 years, each party receives 50% of the funds to spend at their individual discretion.

ELIGIBLE COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND PROJECTS

The agreement requires projects to fall within the following broad categories of public benefit:

- ▶ **Shoreline Protection:** Monitoring beach profiles, scrutinizing biannual sand replenishment operations and constructing associated improvements to protect the NCEL (owned by the District) and Hueneme Beach Park (owned by the City).
- ▶ **Community Development:** Implementing joint initiatives that foster the community's economic, social and environmental well-being including, but not limited to, public infrastructure improvements, sponsorship of special events, support of civic organizations, and similar activities.
- ▶ **Opportunistic Endeavors:** Pursuing opportunities that foster the shared mission and interest of the City and District not otherwise described above including, but not limited to, economic development grants, environmental mitigation, enterprise zone establishment, joint trade missions and similar activities.
- ▶ **Other Projects:** Any project or projects as may be agreed to in any year by the District's Board of Harbor Commissioners and the City Council, except for fiscal years 2014/15 and 2015/16 where the City as granted sole discretion can make such determination.



COMMUNITY BENEFIT PROJECTS

WHAT'S BEEN DONE FOR THE COMMUNITY

FISCAL YEAR 2015 & 2016

The first two years (FY 2015 & 2016) projects were at the discretion of the City as long as it benefits the community. The monies were used on the following projects:

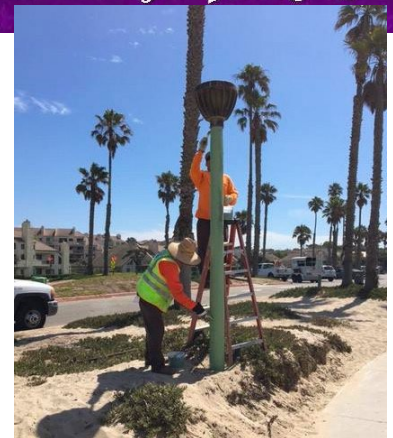
DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT VOTED
Beach Nourishment & Other City Projects	\$25,000
Broaden/refine the mission of REACH	\$10,000
Upgrade Council digital recording and Web page	\$16,050
Various improvements at Museum	\$26,200
Youth Involvement Fair	\$1,500
Various improvements at new Chamber of Commerce location	\$19,000
Emergency Preparedness program	\$17,500
Pedestrian Safety projects	\$50,300
Cops for Tots program w/ additional expense	\$1,500
Additional Emergency Preparedness Program (Spanish)	\$1,600
Crime Mapping	\$2,700
Seed money for Sister Cities program	\$5,500
Establishment of Beach Advisory Commission	\$10,000
Interagency coalition on sand replenishment issues	\$9,000
Other initiatives	\$4,150
PROJECT LIST TOTAL	\$200,000



FISCAL YEAR 2017

For Fiscal Year 2017 the Joint Port/City Committee agreed on the following projects.

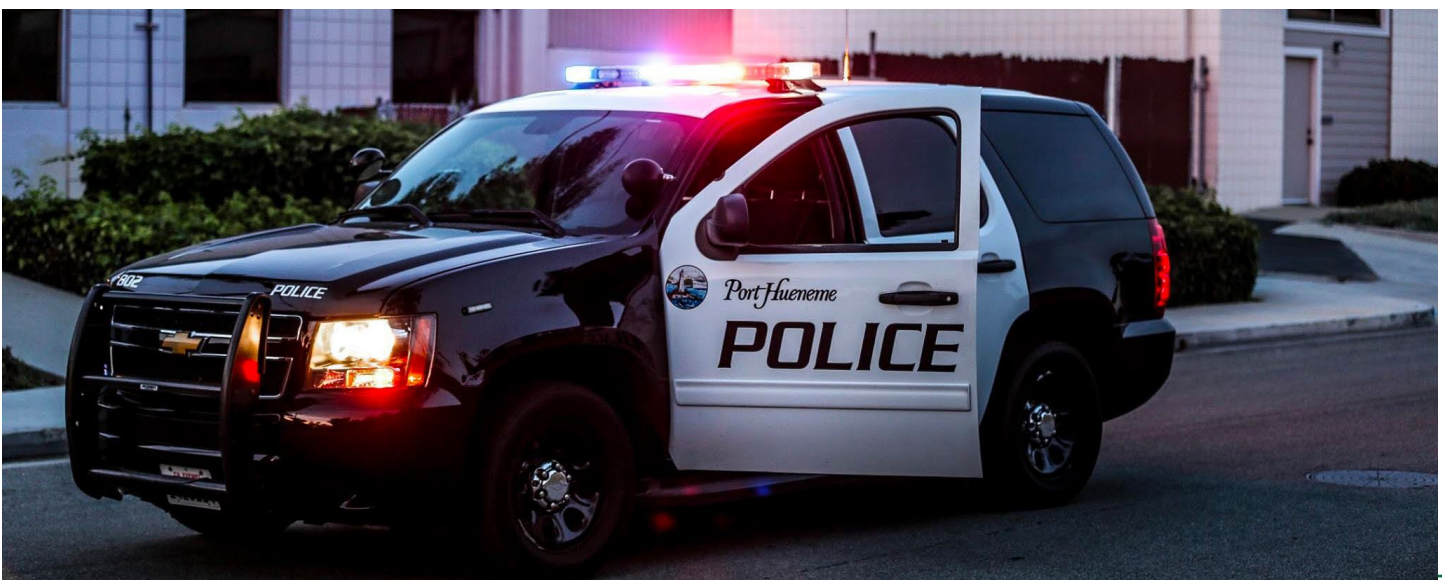
DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT VOTED
Pedestrian crossing at Market Street & Hueneme Road (pedestrian activated)	\$15,000
Community Events (Movies in the Park and similar activities)	\$17,000
Community Events - City's 70th Anniversary	\$3,000
Beautification projects (landscaping, public art, bus shelters)	\$35,000
REACH	\$10,000
Human Services and Public Safety projects (Homeless, etc.)	\$10,000
Other local community organizations, i.e. Museum, Chamber	\$10,000
PROJECT LIST TOTAL	\$100,000



FISCAL YEAR 2018

For Fiscal Year 2018 the Joint Port/City Committee agreed on the following projects:

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT VOTED
Community Homelessness	\$10,000
Public Safety	\$40,000
Park & Recreation	\$50,000
PROJECT LIST TOTAL	\$100,000



FISCAL YEAR 2019

For Fiscal Year 2019 the Joint Port/City Committee met on July 15, 2020 and November 17, 2020 to discuss projects for the 2018-2019 Community Benefit Fund.

Description	Amount Voted
Hueneme - 75 Celebration Initiative	\$ 7,000
Moranda Park Renovations (Structural Analysis)	\$ 15,000
Sponsorship Cops for Tots (Annual)	\$ 2,500
Bubbling Springs Park Farmer's Bridge-Seabee labor	\$ 22,271
Police Body Worn Camera System	\$ 55,850
GOGov CRM Suite - Cloud based info/issue management	\$ 11,000
Dog Park	\$ 10,000
Project List total	\$ 123,621



FISCAL YEAR 2020 - 2021

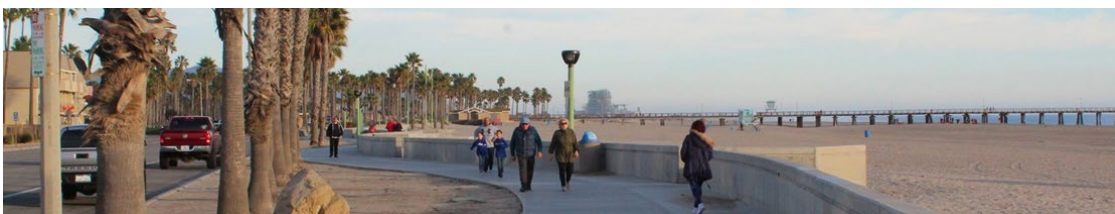
For Fiscal Year 2020 - 2021 the Joint Port/City Committee met on December 20, 2020 and October 18, 2021 to discuss projects for the 2020-2021 Community Benefit Fund.

Description	Amount Voted
Hot Water Pressure Machine (graffiti)	\$ 7,500
Sponsorship STEM Robotics	\$ 7,500
Ocean/Junior Lifeguard Public Safety Equipment	\$ 12,626
Beach ADA Access -	\$ 9,500
Cats & Cradle Feral Cat Management	\$ 3,000
Mobile Library \$3,000	\$ 3,000
Donation to Food Share	\$ 10,000
Coastal Keepers	\$ 5,000
Inlakech Cultural Arts (Youth Mariachi)	\$ 5,000
Reel Guppy Outdoors	\$ 5,000
SEEAG	\$ 5,000
The Children's Workshop	\$ 5,000
Caregivers	\$ 1,200
Habitat for Humanity	\$ 2,500
Navy League	\$ 2,500
Ventura County Leadership Academy	\$ 2,500
Moranda Park Visitor Amenities	\$ 20,000
Hueneme Park Sand Enhancement	\$ 20,000
REACH -Youth Learn to swim	\$ 5,000
REACH- Jr. Life guard	\$ 5,000
Boys & Girls Club	\$ 10,000
Port Hueneme High School Boosters	\$ 5,000
Police Explorers	\$ 5,000
Cats & Cradle Feral Cat Management	\$ 3,000
Hueneme Beach Park Bike Station	\$ 2,000
Public Mural Project	\$ 15,000
Public Monument-Mr. Bard	\$ 50,000
Project List total	\$ 226,826

FISCAL YEAR 2022

For Fiscal Year 2022, the Joint Port/City Committee met on October 21, 2022 to discuss projects for the 2022 Community Benefit Fund. An amount of \$2,066 was not allocated to projects and \$5,000 was not distributed to Cats & Cradle, for a total of \$7,066 remaining for FY2022.

Description	Amount Voted
Bard Monument – Public Art / Culture / Education	\$30,000
Public Mural Project	\$25,000
DC Coalition City and Port Trip – Joint Advocacy	\$20,000
BananaFest – Community Event	\$5,000
Hueneme Beach Festival – Community Event	\$5,000
Hueneme High School Booster Athletic Programs	\$5,000
Police Explorers - Youth Interested in Law Enforcement	\$5,000
Lego First -First Robotics Competition – Youth/Stem Program	\$5,000
Audubon Society Environmental Stewardship for Birds	\$5,000
Inlakech Youth Music and Cultural Programs/Education	\$5,000
* Cats & Cradle Feral Cat Management	\$5,000
Reel Guppy Hueneme Youth Programming/ Education	\$5,000
Navy League Supports Local Personnel and Families	\$5,000
Project List Total	\$125,000
Available Fund Balance	\$127,066
*Funds not distributed	\$5,000
Over (Under)	(\$7,066)



FISCAL YEAR 2023

For Fiscal Year 2023 the Joint Port/City Committee met on May 24, 2023 and October 3, 2023 to discuss projects for the 2023 Community Benefit Fund. The total amount of \$7,066 that was not distributed or allocated was added to 2023.

Description	Amount Voted
Bard Monument – Public Art / Culture / Education	\$40,000
Public Mural Project	\$10,000
DC Coalition City/Port Committee Trip – Joint Advocacy	\$20,000
Youth Interested in Law Enforcement	\$5,000
First Robotics Competition – Youth/Stem Program	\$5,000
Youth Music and Cultural Programs/Education	\$5,000
Hueneme Youth Programming/Education	\$5,000
Volunteers Assisting The Elderly	\$5,000
Community Youth Baseball Program	\$5,000
City-Port Community Events	\$16,350
\$5,000 for the Banana Festival	
\$5,000 for the Hueneme Beach Festival	
\$6,350 for 2 healthy community events, 6 months apart	
Joint Sister City Relationship	\$7,500
Senior Scholarship Award for College	\$10,000
Project List Total	\$133,850
Available Fund Balance	\$134,800
(2023 \$127,734 & 2022 \$7.066)	
Over (Under)	(\$950)



COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND HISTORY

Below is a breakdown of the Community Fund's history of contributions, reimbursements, and balances. FY 2024 is under consideration from FY 2025 allocation.

CONTRIBUTION YEAR	VOTED	UNVOTED	TOTAL CBF CONTRIBUTION
FY 2015, FY 2016	\$200,000		\$200,000
FY 2017	\$100,000		\$100,000
FY 2018	\$100,000		\$100,000
FY 2019	\$123,621		\$123,621
FY 2020, FY 2021	\$226,826		\$226,826
FY 2022	\$125,000	\$5,000 *added to FY2023 (Cats & Cradle) \$2,066 *added to FY2023 remaining balance	\$125,000
FY 2023	\$133,850 2023 \$127,734 (2023 \$127,734 + \$7,066)	\$950	\$127,000
TOTAL	\$1,004,297	\$950	1,005,247

Meetings to discuss investments begin July 1, 2024, and there is a 180-day window to jointly decide how to spend the dollars to support the community. If the Board and City Council do not reach a consensus, the funding will be carried over to the next fiscal year.

THE PEOPLE THAT MADE PARTNERSHIP HAPPEN

City Council

- Tom Figg
- Jon Sharkey
- Jim Hensley
- Sylvia Muñoz Schnopp
- Doug Breeze

Board of Harbor Commissioners

- Jason Hodge
- Mary Anne Rooney
- Jess Herrera
- Arlene Fraser
- Manuel Lopez



Moranda Park

