



Renée Dunn Martin  
Manager, Public Relations  
Port of San Francisco  
(415) 274-0488 phone  
(415) 274-0412 fax  
[Renee.martin@sfport.com](mailto:Renee.martin@sfport.com)

**\*\*\* PRESS RELEASE \*\*\***

**MAYOR LEE AND PORT OF SAN FRANCISCO OPENS  
BRANNAN STREET WHARF**

**NEW OPEN SPACE IN SOUTH BEACH ON THE WATERFRONT**

*New 57,000 Square Foot Brannan Street Wharf Public Park in the heart of South Beach  
Neighborhood*

**San Francisco, CA**—Today Mayor Edwin M. Lee, Board of Supervisor President David Chiu, Supervisor Jane Kim, the San Francisco Port Commission and local officials celebrated the opening of the Brannan Street Wharf, a newly constructed two-acre public park on the Embarcadero in the heart of the South Beach neighborhood. The \$26 million Wharf includes a neighborhood green; a waterside walkway with seating and picnic tables; a shade structure; and interpretive features about the height of the tide and the site's rich maritime and cultural history. It is located on the Embarcadero at the former sites of Piers 34 and 36.

"The new Brannan Street Wharf is another destination on our world-class waterfront," said Mayor Edwin M. Lee. "This beautiful recreational green open space adds to the vitality and excitement of the South Beach neighborhood and provides all visitors and residents with sweeping views of the San Francisco Bay, the Bay Bridge and, this summer, the 34th America's Cup team camps at Piers 30-32."

The Wharf includes a 52-foot long interpretive exhibit featuring the multi-faceted history and importance of the site to maritime shipping, Chinese immigration, and labor struggles that established San Francisco as the base for the International Longshore and Warehouse Union.

"The new Brannan Street Wharf represents the fabric of the South Beach community which is rich in maritime history, diverse in culture and built on the strength of our local labor," said Monique Moyer Port Executive Director."

The Brannan Street Wharf is designed for suitability and, in addition to providing an exciting new place for outdoor enjoyment; it also strengthens the underlying seawall for better earthquake responsiveness and provides a means to absorb high tides as sea levels rise. The Wharf has been constructed to tilt up toward the Bay, and includes a solid bullrail curb to

the railing to provide additional protection from waves, and designed to withstand increased wave loading and limited flooding.

At today's ribbon cutting ceremony, the crowd of nearly 300 people was delighted when Otis Redding III, son of the late Otis Redding Jr. performed the famous song "Sittin' on the Dock of the Bay." In summer 1967, Otis Redding Jr. was inspired to write the song as he sat on a houseboat in Sausalito, CA watching the tide roll in and out of San Francisco's Bay. The Brannan Street Wharf project includes three (3) large tidal columns that illustrate tidal change of the Bay each day. Lyrics to the song by Otis Redding are casted in bronze at the base of one of the tidal columns.

The Brannan Street Wharf includes a reinforced concrete deck supported by 260 piles driven over 80 feet into the bay floor. The deck includes 340 tons of reinforcing and 3,600 cubic yards of concrete. The wharf is designed for sustainability; materials were chosen to perform well in the salt water environment, the design accommodates 75 years of projected sea level rise, and the structure will ride out small earthquakes and survive major shakers with repairable damage. It is the first wharf in San Francisco to include instrumentation to measure structural response during earthquakes, which will advance the study of earthquake engineering as well as aid in assessing post-earthquake inspection.

The total project funding and costs are approximately \$26.1M. The Port's funding contribution is \$18.5M; \$2.9M is from the 2008 Clean & Safe Neighborhood Parks Bonds, \$0.1 million is a grant from the California Coastal Conservancy and \$4.7M from a federal appropriation.

"This project has been years in the making so, we want to express our heartfelt thanks to those who made this new wharf possible -- Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi for assisting us with obtaining federal funds, the Bay Conservation and Development Commission and CA Coastal Conservancy for partnering with the Port, the Port Commission for their vision and leadership; the South Beach/Rincon Hill communities, and finally, the voters of San Francisco who voted to fund the Neighborhood Parks Obligation Bond Measures in 2008 and 2012," said Moyer.

The Port and the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) both called for the development of the Brannan Street Wharf when these two agencies reached an historic agreement in 2000, establishing consistent policies for the San Francisco waterfront. The Port, then worked with BCDC and a 23-member citizen advisory committee to develop a concept design for the Wharf.

The Brannan Street Wharf is located in the Embarcadero Waterfront Historic District as listed on the National Park Services' registry of historic places.

The Port of San Francisco, an enterprise agency of the City and County of San Francisco oversees a broad range of commercial, maritime and public access facilities along the City's waterfront that are held in public trust for the people of California.

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