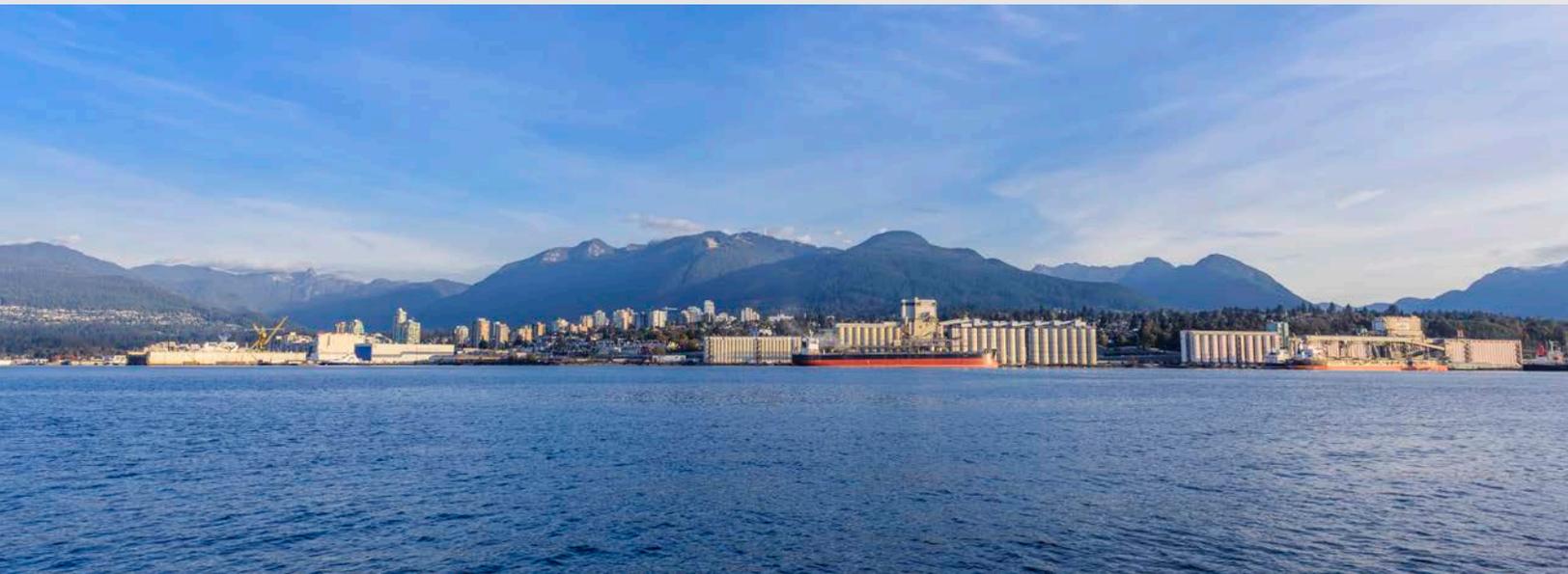


The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority is advancing a new Active Vessel Traffic Management Program in collaboration with industry and other agencies, and through engagement with Indigenous groups, municipalities, and community stakeholders.

Cargo volumes through the Port of Vancouver continue to grow, increasing the need to optimize the flow of traffic in and out of the port. As many parties work together to ensure that trade through the gateway is fluid, it is important to coordinate the movement of vessels through increasingly busy and confined waterways.

That's why the port authority is taking an active role in the strategic and operational planning of marine traffic through the Port of Vancouver with the development of the Active Vessel Traffic Management (AVTM) Program. The program includes five integrated elements that will support future trade growth, improve supply chain efficiency, and reduce the environmental and social impacts of trade activity.



Engagement with Indigenous groups, local governments, community stakeholders and the public

In January 2022, the port authority began engaging with Indigenous groups, local governments, and community stakeholders about opportunities to increase port efficiency and to help better manage the effects of vessel traffic on local communities. This initial phase of engagement focused on outreach with Indigenous groups, local governments and organizations that have previously expressed interest in vessel traffic management and anchorages, to help us design a meaningful and actionable process for engaging the broader community in the development of the AVTM system moving forward. Phase 1 engagement is now complete and planning for future engagement opportunities is underway. We appreciate the feedback and insights shared and we look forward to connecting further on this topic at future engagement opportunities in the coming months.

The Phase 1 engagement report is available [here](#).

Industry advisory panel

In January 2022, the port authority formed a panel of marine and supply chain industry leaders to contribute to the design of the new AVTM system. The panel was made up of diverse subject matter experts to discuss the program vision and provide solution alternatives. The panel focused on operational innovations, within existing legal and regulatory frameworks, that would enable the project to achieve its objectives.

On March 31, 2022, the panel submitted its report, which included system design recommendations for the port authority's consideration. Overall, the panel concluded that an AVTM system is a prudent and sensible response to addressing the various supply chain issues facing the Vancouver gateway.

Read the panel report [here](#).

In addition to the work carried out by the industry advisory panel, the port authority has continued to engage with stakeholders including members of the domestic operators working group and industry associations. Broader industry engagement will resume in June as the recommendations from the advisory panel are considered and incorporated moving forward.

Technology-enabled vessel scheduling update

As a foundational tool to enable a centralized scheduling system (CSS), the work to advance procurement of a technology partner has continued. Following the release of a request for proposal (RFP) in December 2021, the port authority evaluated responses and advanced successful proponents to the next phase of procurement. In this phase, vendors are demonstrating how their technology solution would approach supporting an AVTM program to achieve objectives and satisfy initial functional and technical requirements.

The port authority expects to select a vendor by the end of Q2 2022. The technology will enable the development of a detailed design with input from stakeholders.

The initial phase of the program is expected to launch in early 2023.

Benefits of active vessel traffic management

Goals of the AVTM program include:



Strengthened marine safety

Reducing congestion and actively managing marine traffic in the busiest, most confined waters of the port



Improved efficiency and reliability of the flow of goods

Optimizing processes through the gateway, such as vessel-scheduling, for all supply-chain partners



Reduced environmental impacts

Reducing noise impacts to southern resident killer whale habitat by limiting unnecessary vessel movements



Minimized social impacts

Reducing overall anchorage usage in southern BC and implementing a Code of Conduct for vessels at anchorage

For more information

Read the program overview and register for newsletter updates: portvancouver.com/marine-operations/avtm
Email: AVTM@portvancouver.com