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*** PRESS RELEASE ***

Mayor Gavin Newsom Visits Star Princess Mega-Cruise Ship in Newly Expanded Drydock at Pier 70



Star Princess in Drydock for \$14M in Repairs, creating a boom for Local Maritime Industries



SAN FRANCISCO, CA - Today Mayor Gavin Newsom joined Port Director Monique Moyer and other city officials to visit the Star Princess, the

first mega-cruise ship to enter the newly expanded drydock at Pier 70. The Mayor also highlighted city plans to rehabilitate the Pier 70 area.



"The agreement between the Port, Princess Cruises and BAE Systems to invest and upgrade the Port's drydock at Pier 70, has made San Francisco capable of handling the newest and largest ships operating in the Pacific," said Mayor Gavin Newsom.

"Today, we reap the benefits of that investment. Having this beautiful ship grace our waterfront reminds us of San Francisco's maritime roots, and enhances our position as a destination city."



"Pier 70 is the historical heart of the Port's working waterfront, which continues to provide high-paying, skilled jobs that San Francisco needs," said Supervisor Sophie Maxwell. "Under the Port's Master Plan, we have an incredible opportunity to revitalize Pier 70's historic buildings, create new parks, and generate jobs. As an anchor maritime tenant, BAE will continue to play an important role in this waterfront renewal."

Last year, the Port, Princess Cruises, and the shipyard operator - BAE Systems San Francisco - agreed to undertake a major enhancement of the Port's drydock, making it the only commercial facility on the U.S. West Coast able to accommodate post-Panamax ships, that is, ships too large to transit the Panama Canal.

The \$5 million enhancement project was completed this summer, and the 13-day drydocking of the Star Princess at Pier 70 is the first of expected regular visits by mega-liners, creating hundreds of jobs for the region's ten maritime trade unions.



Princess Cruises, a part of the Carnival Corporation which has been doing business with the Port for 40 years, drydocked the 952' Star Princess for 13 days of around the clock programmed mechanical, navigational and interior upgrades during its stay. The ship is 109,000 tons, 118 ft. wide and holds 1,200 crew members and as many as 3,100 passengers. The Star Princess is 13 feet too wide to fit through the Panama Canal.

According to the Port's recently completed Economic Impact Study, the

cruise industry generates \$31 million in total economic impact annually to the City of San Francisco and nearly \$50 million to the Bay Area.

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Pier 70 Rehabilitation

After two years of consensus building, the Port is ready to issue a competitive solicitation for Pier 70 rehabilitation in early 2009 and the City is gearing up for major new public investment in the area.

Pier 70 is the oldest continually operating shipyard in the country. The site has played a significant role in not only ship building and repair, but in the industrialization of the United States and is recognized as the most important intact historic industrial resource west of the Mississippi.



The Pier 70 plan calls for:

Continued operation of the ship repair business on 15-acres.

Historic preservation of over 700,000 square feet of historic resources representing the late 1800's and every decade between 1900-1950.

Up to 20-acres of new open space, including improvements to the region-wide Bay Trail and San Francisco Blue Greenway effort and providing new open spaces to the currently undeserved eastern neighborhoods.

Up to 3 million square feet of new development adjacent to UCSF and Mission Bay that could provide for up to 8,000 new jobs.

Up to \$1 billion in private investment and \$600 million in companion public amenities including historic preservation, site remediation and new parks.

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Photos by Bill Wilson www.billwilsonphotos.com

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