

17th Biennial National Harbor Safety Committee Conference
Safe, Shared Waterways: From Conversation to Action
June 25-27, 2019
Houston, Texas

The Transportation Research Board, the Lone Star Harbor Safety Committee, and the South Texas Waterways Advisory Committee are excited to announce the 17th Biennial National Harbor Safety Committee Conference being held from June 25-27, 2019 at the Royal Sonesta Hotel and Conference Center in Houston, Texas. The national conference is typically held on a biennial basis and continues to be one of the premier gatherings of waterways stakeholders from the private sector, government agencies, and academia.

This vital marine national transportation event is organized by the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies in partnership with the U.S. Coast Guard. The Lone Star Harbor Safety Committee is the lead host for the conference, with the South Texas Waterways Advisory Committee (STWAC) serving as a co-host.

Harbor Safety Committees (HSCs) are local committees of waterways stakeholders addressing issues that include the safety, security, mobility, and environmental protection of our ports and waterways. Membership is composed of representatives from all segments of the local maritime industry including governmental agencies, the commercial fishing industry, recreational boaters, and public interest groups.

This three-day event enables HSCs from all of America's waterways to come together on a national basis to share best practices, discuss policy and regulatory issues, highlight solutions, dialogue with government agencies, and form relationships that enable a robust transfer of ideas in between gatherings. Topics addressed during this conference contribute to the national dialogue and support the marine transportation system in fulfilling its vital role in ensuring national economic security. The conference typically draws between 200-350 maritime stakeholders from throughout North America.

The conference will include panel sessions, keynote addresses from high-level officials, and networking opportunities for waterways stakeholders and service providers from across our nation. The panel sessions are designed to be highly interactive, allowing for a dialogue between the presenters and the attendees. Topics to be addressed at the 2019 conference include: The Future of Navigation and Shipping; Cybersecurity; Disaster Preparedness; Harbor Safety Committee Management; Communication, Coordination, and Collaboration; Community Outreach; The Role of the Waterways Stakeholder in Vessel Traffic Safety and Security; Innovations in Training, Education, and Exercises; and more.

Support dollars from the maritime community are critical in keeping this conference sustainable for all attendees. We need your assistance in this regard and invite you to consider one of the support packages offered below. If you have any questions as you consider your support for the conference, please contact Brittney Gick (Bgick@nas.edu). Our local host organizations are also offering sponsorship opportunities to help underwrite an offsite evening event. Please contact James Prazak (PrazakJ@triconenergy.com) to discuss opportunities to highlight your organization through your support of that event.

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