

YOUR OPINION MATTERS!

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) wants to hear from YOU regarding the role that North Carolina ports play in sustaining and strengthening the State's economy. Three informal meetings are being held so that everyone has an opportunity to provide input into the North Carolina Maritime Strategy process.

WHEN AND WHERE:

- > **Tuesday, December 13:** St. James Community Center, 4136 Southport-Supply Road SE, St. James, NC 28461
- > **Wednesday, December 14:** Coastline Convention and Event Center, 503 Nutt Street, Wilmington, NC 28401
- > **Thursday, December 15:** Crystal Coast Civic Center (Carteret Community College), 3505 Arendell Street, Morehead City, NC 28557

HOW IT WILL WORK:

4:00pm–6:00pm: Open House

NCDOT staff and consultants working on this study will be on hand to answer questions, provide information and hear your thoughts. There will be multiple stations displaying the information gathered thus far.

6:00pm–8:00pm: Public Comment Period

After a short presentation, participants may stand and make brief verbal comments. There will also be a station set up so that written comments can be received.

The State of North Carolina has initiated the development of the North Carolina Maritime Strategy to serve as an open evaluation of North Carolina's position, opportunities and challenges as a portal for global maritime commerce. The study will examine the role that North Carolina ports play in sustaining and strengthening the State's economy, and identify specific strategies to optimize benefits received from the State's investments in port and associated transportation infrastructure. The North Carolina Maritime Strategy is being prepared as the expansion of the Panama Canal nears its scheduled 2014 completion, and the United States recognizes the increasing importance of exports to national and regional economic growth.

For more information on the meeting, contact **Roberto Canales P.E.**, Secretary's Coordinator of Strategic Initiatives, North Carolina Department of Transportation, 1501 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1501 or at rcanales@ncdot.gov.

The public may also visit the project website at www.maritimestudy.com or call the project hotline at **1-855-568-1373**.