



Illinois International Port District – E.R.I.C. Initiative

E.R.I.C is the Port’s initiative, which focuses on 8 core components and associated focus areas. E.R.I.C has been the guiding principle behind the Port’s planning and implementation and will be incorporated into the Port Master Plan process. Moving forward, the IIPD will track how Port projects address the various components of E.R.I.C.

E - Economy



The IIPD is a major economic driver in the region. With access to six of the seven North American Class I railroads, two of the nation’s most important waterway systems, both the Mississippi and Great Lakes waterways, and no less than five of the major US interstates and roadways, the IIPD is always looking for opportunities to invest in its infrastructure to promote the movement of more goods into and out of the Port.

E - Environment



IIPD is working with many partners throughout the region to ensure that our facilities and processes are environmentally friendly. In 2020, IIPD renewed its Green Marine designation and is looking at opportunities to generate power through solar installations on Port property as well as other alternative energy opportunities at the IIPD.

R - Resources



The Port’s greatest asset is its land. With over 100 acres of land for lease to existing and future industrial tenants, and land on the north side of Lake Calumet that could be used for recreational and conservation purposes, the Port is exploring opportunities to use it’s the greatest resource to promote economic and environmental opportunities.

R - Recreation



Harborside International Golf Facility is part of the IIPD and has been operating since 1995. The IIPD seeks to build upon this world-class recreation facility by exploring opportunities to build a hotel, boathouse, memorial gardens, and a multi-use bicycle and pedestrian path on the land adjacent to Harborside.

I - Industry



As a landlord Port, the IIPD leases its industrial land to over two dozen tenants. These tenants bring in a wide variety of commodities, including liquid bulk, cement and cement aggregate, steel ingots, lumber, and sugar. The IIPD is focused on allowing industry to utilize multiple modes of transportation to get their commodities to market in the most efficient way possible.

I - Innovation



The IIPD is developing innovative solutions to some of the Port’s most pressing challenges. The IIPD continues to pursue funding for implementing automation and digitalization at the Port to improve efficiency, finding creative reuse of existing structures such as the north grain silo, and pursuing renewable sources of energy to meet the IIPD’s energy needs.

C - Community



IIPD’s facilities are situated within the 10th Ward and neighbor some residential communities on the South Side of Chicago. Since 2017, IIPD has been working to build relationships in neighboring communities through our Annual State of the Port event and periodic public meetings, as well as opening Harborside to Alderwoman Garza’s First Friday events.

C - Conservation



IIPD oversees over 1,800 acres of land in south Chicago, including the 140-acre Square Marsh wetland. The IIPD is dedicated to ensuring that Square Marsh is maintained in a way that aligns with conservation best practices. IIPD is partnering with the Nature Conservancy to move forward on conservation at Square Marsh.

