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Port of Erie Economic Impacts Study Results Released
Supports Over 757 Jobs & Contributes \$90.8 Million in Economic Activity

Washington, DC (September 12, 2018) – The Great Lakes Seaway Partnership announces the release of *Economic Impacts of the Port of Erie*, a report documenting the many contributions made by the Erie-Western Pennsylvania Port Authority and Great Lakes Seaway Shipping to the City of Erie, Erie County, State of Pennsylvania and Great Lakes region.

The study reports that in 2017 the Port of Erie and maritime commerce supported:

- 757 jobs
- \$90.8 million in economic activity
- \$49.6 million in personal income and local consumption expenditures
- \$19.2 million in federal and state tax revenue



“This report demonstrates the significant impact that the maritime industry has on our region,”

says Brenda A. Sandberg, Executive Director, Port of Erie. “We are proud to have served Erie for close to 50 years; supporting industrial, commercial and recreational opportunities. With over \$90.8 million in annual economic activity, we will continue to serve as a powerful economic engine for Erie and the State of Pennsylvania in the future.”

Global Reach, Local Impact.

The impact of Great Lakes Seaway Shipping for both domestic and international cargo at the Port of Erie has yielded considerable economic benefits to the City of Erie and State of Pennsylvania. “The Port of Erie has a proven track record of economic support to not only Erie, but the commonwealth as a whole,” said Governor Tom Wolf. “Erie is the Riviera of Pennsylvania, and I look forward to continuing our partnerships that help to strengthen this iconic region so that it will continue to thrive for years to come.”

“Our Port is not only a regional asset that is a magnet for tourism and contributes to our vision of a world-class Bayfront,” said Mayor Joseph V. Schember. “This study illustrates that it also serves vital maritime commerce functions, including the shipment of domestic and international cargo. As we look to create more, good family-sustaining jobs, our Port is an important piece of our economic development strategy. It creates an attractive market for potential industries around the world.”



THE GREAT LAKES SEAWAY PARTNERSHIP

“The study reflects the important contributions the Port of Erie provides to the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Region,” says Steven A. Fisher, Executive Director of the American Great Lakes Ports Association. “The jobs supported by the maritime industry include not only those located directly on the waterfront – shipyard workers, stevedores, vessel operators, terminal employees, truck drivers and marine pilots – but also grain farmers, construction works, miners and steelworkers. Many of these jobs would vanish if not for a dynamic maritime industry.”

The *Economic Impacts of Port of Erie* full report can be downloaded at www.greatlakesseaway.org/economy.

The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway Navigation System

Economic Impacts of the Port of Erie is a companion report to the broader Great Lakes-St. Lawrence study titled *Economic Impacts of Maritime Shipping in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Region*, a year-long study of the economic impacts of the entire Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway navigation system.

The study reports that in 2017 in the United States and Canada, maritime commerce supported:

- 237,868 jobs
- \$35 billion in economic activity
- \$14.2 billion in personal income and local consumption expenditures
- \$6.6 billion in federal, state/provincial and local tax revenue

The *Economic Impacts of Maritime Shipping in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Region* Executive Summary and full report can be downloaded at <http://greatlakesseaway.org/economy>.



** The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway System includes impacts of domestic and international cargo that has travelled at some point through the Great Lakes, its connecting rivers and the St. Lawrence Seaway (ending at St. Lambert Lock in Montreal). It excludes Quebec commerce that moves exclusively between Canadian ports on the lower St. Lawrence River, as well as commerce between these Canadian lower St. Lawrence River ports and overseas ports.*

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About the Port of Erie

The Port of Erie promotes industrial, commercial and recreational opportunities on Presque Isle Bay and adjacent waters. The Port of Erie is located on the southeast shore of Lake Erie in a natural bay formed and sheltered by Presque Isle State Park, Pennsylvania. Erie’s harbor



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entrance channel is 29 feet deep. The Port of Erie and Carmeuse Lime & Stone offer cargo shippers on the Great Lakes/Seaway System the finest facilities available. With 85 million people within a 500-mile radius, the Erie Port is at the hub of the US and Canadian Industrial Center.

For more information, please visit www.porterie.org

About the Great Lakes Seaway Partnership

The Great Lakes Seaway Partnership is a coalition of leading US and Canadian maritime organizations working to enhance public understanding of the benefits of commercial shipping in the Great Lakes Seaway region of North America. The organization manages an education-focused communications program, sponsors research and works closely with media, policy makers, community groups, allied industries, environmental stakeholders and the general public to highlight the positive attributes of marine transportation.

For more information, please visit www.greatlakesseaway.org.

About the Economic Impacts Study

The *Economic Impacts of Maritime Shipping in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Region*, which uses 2017 data, was conducted by economic consultants Martin Associates of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, a global leader in transportation economic analysis and strategic planning. Martin Associates was retained to perform this analysis by a coalition of U.S. and Canadian Great Lakes and St. Lawrence marine industry stakeholders, including: Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation, the American Great Lakes Ports Association, the Chamber of Marine Commerce, the Lake Carriers Association, and the Shipping Federation of Canada. The analysis was developed from comprehensive interviews with more than 750 individual firms with 1,105 operations throughout the region. The report provides the navigation community, transportation planners, government policy makers and the general public with an assessment of the economic impacts of the entire Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway navigation system.

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