UPDATE - April 14, 2020: Starting Wednesday, April 15, Port Houston will be rolling out non-contact temperature screenings of employees and workers entering Turning Basin Terminals and remaining Bayport and Barbours Cut terminal locations, to further reduce the spread of COVID-19 among our people and port community.

At the Turning Basin Terminal, WSS will conduct screenings at the main entrance POV gate and Gate 8 during daylight hours, and at the Cargo Bay Road entrance for ships at night. During daylight hours, only trucks will be allowed to transit Cargo Bay Road. All others will be directed to the main entrance. All parties entering the facilities through these access points will be subject to screening.

WSS will also conduct screenings at additional Bayport and Barbours Cut Terminal locations that are not in the restricted areas, including the Bayport Administration Building, BCT C6 interchange office, BCT C3 Ops office, and BCT C1 office building.

The temperature screenings are our latest effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 within Port Houston facilities. We continue to follow all other protective protocols in place, such as social distancing measures and proactive cleaning and disinfecting procedures.

As we work to implement and possibly expand these screening protocols further, we will keep you informed of any changes or developments. Thank you all for your continued patience and trust as we take further steps to protect our employees and partners.

UPDATE - April 6, 2020: Effective Wednesday, April 8, 2020, Port Houston will require non-contact temperature screenings of everyone entering Barbours Cut and Bayport Container Terminals restricted areas, to further reduce the spread of COVID-19 among our people and port community. Port Houston will consider expanding to other areas of Port Houston public facilities after successful implementation at the two container terminals, which were chosen based on their environment and the varied users and visitors who enter those shared spaces.

Port Houston will deny entrance to anyone whose temperature exceeds 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit (the temperature the CDC defines as a “fever”). Those persons will be directed to stay away from the workplace, return home, self-monitor for symptoms, and obtain medical testing and assistance if needed.
Halting the entry of individuals with a fever is our next step in mitigating the spread of COVID-19 within Port Houston facilities. However, these temperature screenings are not definitive tests for the presence of the virus. We must continue to follow all other protective protocols in place, such as social distancing, regular hand washing, wiping down equipment before and after use, and staying home when sick.

To carry out these screenings, Port Houston has hired Workplace Safety Screenings (WSS), which currently provides screening services to the ILA through the WGMA. Because of the limited availability of personnel to conduct screening, access to the terminals will be limited to 12 entrances.

The following access points will remain open. Temperature screenings will begin at certain of these locations on Wednesday April 8, and screening stations at all 12 entrances listed below are expected to be active by early next week. Persons lining up to be screened must maintain at least 6 feet of distance from one another. All parties entering the restricted area of the two facilities will be subject to screening.

Bayport Open Entrances:
• Admin Turnstile 1
• Admin Turnstile 2
• Maintenance Turnstile 1
• Maintenance Turnstile 2
• ILA East Turnstile 1
• BPT1/POV Gate Entrance

BCT Open Entrances:
• C6 ILA Turnstile
• C3 Admin Turnstile 1
• C3 Admin Turnstile 2
• ILA C2 Turnstile
• C1 Maintenance Turnstile
• Gate 12 POV Entrance

The following access points will be closed until further notice. Please utilize adjacent entrances.

Bayport Closed Entrances:
• ILA West 1
• ILA West 2
• Ops/Maintenance Turnstile
• ILA East 2

BCT Closed Entrances:
• C6 Admin Turnstile
• Exit Gate Turnstile
• Stage 2 Turnstile

Based on Port Houston’s agreement with WSS, WSS employees will take the temperature of any workers approaching each access point. If the temperature is below 100 degrees, the worker will be released to work. Workers with temperature 100-100.3 will be rescreened and asked a series of questions before action is taken. If the temperature is 100.4 degrees or above, it will be taken at least two more times to ensure accuracy, and if it is confirmed, the worker will be instructed to return home. Workers sent home
will be contacted by their employer within a couple of hours to discuss next steps. For more details on the process, click here.

As we work to implement and possibly expand these new screening protocols, we will keep you informed of any changes or developments. Thank you all for your continued patience and trust as we take further steps to protect our employees and partners.