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INFORMATION RELEASE  
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**New cruise ship berths able to welcome bigger boats**  
*Docks & Harbors celebrates completion with ribbon-cutting ceremony Friday*



Docks & Harbors invites the public to the new Alaska Steamship Dock Friday at noon for a ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the successful completion of the new cruise ship berths project. The Alaska Steamship Dock, near Marine Park, is one of two new berths.

“We’re building out a world-class facility and the ships are getting larger. To be competitive in a global market for cruise ship passengers, we have to keep pace with the rest of the world,” Port Director Carl Uchytel said. “Now Juneau, Skagway and Ketchikan, the three large cruise ship ports in Southeast, all can now each handle four post-panamax size cruise ships shoreside.”

The two new berths are able to simultaneously accommodate a 1,000-foot ship and a 1,100-foot ship near Downtown Juneau. Prior to the project, the largest ship Docks & Harbors could accommodate was a 965-foot ship.

“I think it’ll serve the Juneau public very well for decades to come,” Uchytel said.

The \$54 million project was awarded to Manson Construction Company of Seattle in January 2014.

Invited speakers to Friday’s ribbon cutting include Mayor Ken Koelsch, CBJ Port Engineer Gary Gillette, PND Engineers’ Dick Somerville, Manson Construction Vice President Rob Reller, and Cruise Lines International Association Alaska President John Binkley. The event kicks off Saturday’s Juneau Maritime Festival, which will also take place on the Alaska Steamship Dock.

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For more information, contact Port Director Carl Uchytel at 586-0294 or [Carl.Uchytel@juneau.org](mailto:Carl.Uchytel@juneau.org)

(Photo by Mark Sams, PND Engineers)