



**South  
Carolina  
Ports**

# **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **PUBLIC INVITED TO 'LISTENING SESSION' FOR UNION PIER CRUISE TERMINAL PLAN**

*Charleston, SC* – As part of its planning process for the Union Pier Cruise Terminal and the surrounding property, the South Carolina State Ports Authority (SCSPA) hosted a public listening session tonight at the Passenger Terminal. Thousands of people living in downtown neighborhoods near the property were invited to attend, as well as other maritime and business community stakeholders.

The Ports Authority, working in collaboration with the City of Charleston, recently announced the selection of a professional planning team – led by Cooper, Robertson & Partners – to develop a plan that aims to:

- Create a financially viable Union Pier Cruise Terminal plan that reflects the character and quality of historic Charleston
- Comply with today's enhanced cruise security requirements
- Identify additional uses of the property for the enjoyment of Charlestonians and betterment of the economy
- Mitigate impacts on existing infrastructure such as traffic, and
- Provide more access to the waterfront.

Cooper Robertson planners led the listening session, which included a series of breakout sessions encouraging broad-based participation. "We'll get a better plan if we have the benefit of constructive public participation," said SCSPA President and CEO Jim Newsome. "We look forward to working with the community throughout this planning process."

In addition to attending the listening session, members of the public can get more information, ask questions and post comments through a special Website, [www.UnionPierPlan.com](http://www.UnionPierPlan.com). The public will also be invited to provide input to the preliminary plan when it is presented in a mid-December public meeting.

### **ABOUT THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE PORTS AUTHORITY:**

The South Carolina State Ports Authority, established by the state's General Assembly in 1942, owns and operates public seaport facilities in Charleston and Georgetown, handling international commerce valued at more than \$62 billion annually and receiving no direct taxpayer subsidy. An economic development engine for the state, port operations facilitate 260,800 jobs across South Carolina and nearly \$45 billion in economic activity each year.

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