

***P* R E S S R E L E A S E**

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COMMONWEALTH TO EVALUATE INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN *PUERTO RICO INFRASTRUCTURE FORUM*

The Government Development Bank for Puerto Rico will present the *Puerto Rico Infrastructure Forum: Partnership for Growth* on November 5 and 6 to evaluate the infrastructure development plans in the ports, highways, airports, aqueduct and electric power sectors, and the financing model that will complement public investment.

To access new sources of financing that could complement public investment to push forward infrastructure renewal and capital improvements program, instead of assuming more debt the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico is evaluating new financing models, including public/private partnerships (P3).

In the Forum, the Commonwealth will provide more than 200 U.S. potential investors and developers with updated information about the infrastructure projects that are necessary for Puerto Rico to maintain and improve its competitiveness, with the objective of interesting them in entering into collaborative agreements to invest on the Island.

The Forum, to be held at the Puerto Rico Convention Center, will begin on Monday, November 5, with an overview of the Puerto Rico Economic Development and Government Transformation Plan and the public policy that proposes to advance a world-class infrastructure, delivered by Chief of Staff Jorge Silva-Puras.

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The projects proposed to transform the ports and aqueduct infrastructure will be presented by Secretary of State and Ports Executive Director, Hon. Fernando Bonilla, and Aqueduct and Sewer Authority Executive Director, José Ortiz, respectively. Investment opportunities related to the Port of the Americas will be presented by the Port's executive director, Ramón Torres.

The Puerto Rico Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) and the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (PREPA) will outline the most important projects included in their respective improvement plans, through Carlos González, DTPW Secretary, and Jorge Rodríguez, PREPA Executive Director.

GDB's Acting President, Jorge Irizarry, will describe GDB's role as fiscal agent and financial advisor to all public agencies in this strategy and the plan of action for each transaction, as well as the investment climate. Governor Aníbal Acevedo-Vilá will address participants during lunch on November 5.

On Tuesday, November 6, Forum participants will have a chance to visit two projects currently under construction, the Ports of the Americas in Ponce and the Luis Muñoz Marín Airport Facilities.

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