

Robel Afewerki, P.E., M.S.C.E.

Assistant Chief Harbor Engineer
Port of Los Angeles

Robel Afewerki is Assistant Chief Harbor Engineer for the Port of Los Angeles (Port). Appointed to his current position in April 2026, Afewerki oversees the contract administration and testing functions of the Port's Construction Division, assisting the Chief Harbor Engineer and leading teams in managing major capital improvement projects. In his 30 years at the Port, Afewerki has been involved in significant harbor expansion and improvement projects, ensuring the Port of Los Angeles maintains its status as one of the busiest ports in the United States.

A 35-year City of Los Angeles employee, Afewerki started as a student engineer at the Port in June of 1991. He worked in the Department of Public Works - Bureau of Engineering (BOE) from 1994 to 1999. Since 2000, he has worked at the Port on various engineering design and construction projects.

Afewerki has been involved in or supported several significant BOE and Port projects, including:

- Matsonia Way Pump Station
- Playa Visita Major Sewer (6500 LF of 42" Dia. line installed utilizing microtunnel)
- Channel Deeping Utilities Relocation (water, power, sewer and oil lines)
- Pie 400 Development (500 acres terminal)
- Port Police Security Infrastructure
- Port Wide Fiber Optic Network
- Waterfront development
- Environmental Remediation
- Various Marine and Land Improvements

A registered civil engineer in California, Afewerki holds both Master and Bachelor of Science degrees in civil engineering from California State University Long Beach. He is member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE).