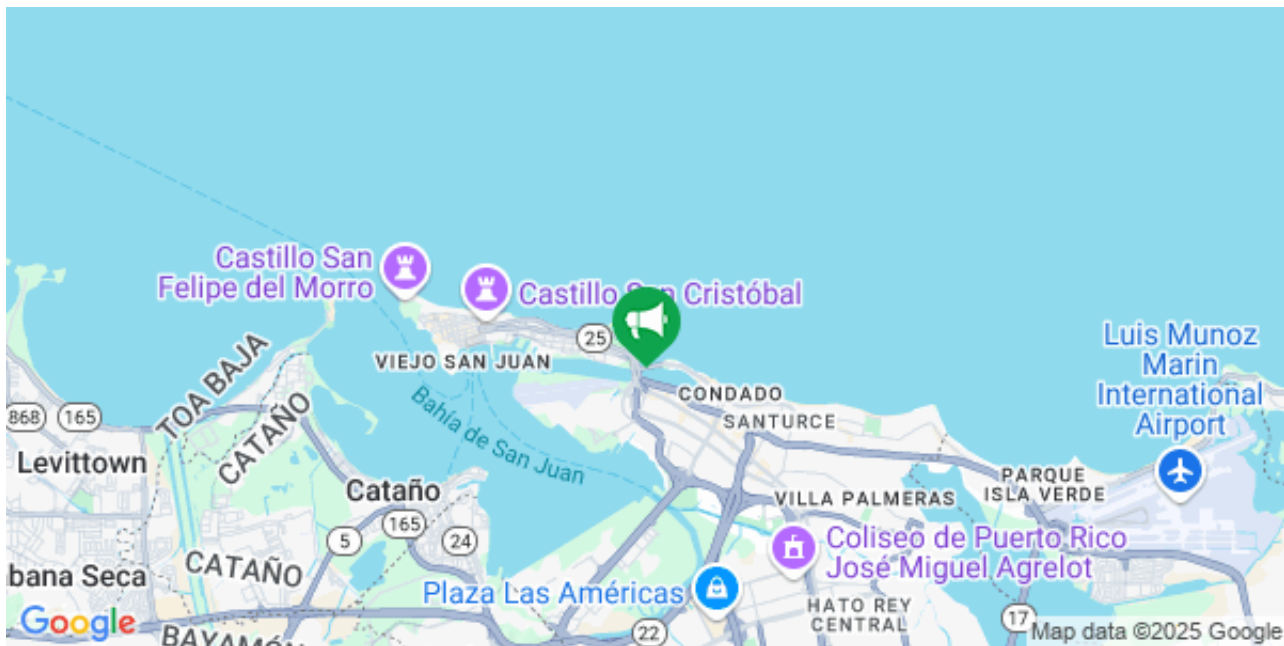


Protest

**01**JAN
7:59 UTC

Puerto Rico (US) Tactical: Environmental activists' protest to coincide with Governor's inauguration ceremony in San Juan at 10:00 (local time) on January 2; allot for disruptions

Current Situation

- According to reports, several environmental and civil society groups, including the Sierra Club, Amigxs del MAR, and Casa Tallaboena, will hold a demonstration at Puente Dos Hermanos in San Juan on January 2 at 10:00 (local time).
- Activists have organized the rally to raise concerns regarding the expansion of methane gas plants, construction in protected areas, and inadequate river drainage, further demanding that the incoming administration prioritize environmental issues. Protest leaders, such as Victor Alvarado of the Environmental Dialogue Committee and Hernaliz Vazquez Torres of the Sierra Club, have emphasized the urgency for policies to protect natural resources and ensure quality of life.
- The planned protest action also coincides with the inauguration ceremony of Governor-elect Jennifer Gonzalez Colon, slated to begin at 08:00 at Parroquia Santa Teresita. The official inauguration will be held at 10:30 at the Capitolio de Puerto Rico, following which the governor will walk to La Fortaleza. Celebrations will continue with a large public event at Plaza del Quinto Centenario in Old San Juan from 14:00, featuring performances by various artists, including Natti Natasha, Grupo Manía, and DJ Playero. Officials will implement several road closures and vehicle restrictions in the vicinity.



Source: [Sierra Club](#), [Amigxs del MAR](#)

Assessments & Forecast

1. The protest reflects long-standing environmental concerns, amplified by recent issues involving industrial expansion and inadequate resource management. The call to action emerges weeks after several members of the Transition Committee, appointed by Gonzalez expressed skepticism about the fiscal viability of implementing the strategies contained in the draft Plan for Mitigation, Adaptation and Resilience to Climate Change. The document was initially submitted in April by the Committee of Experts and Advisors on Climate Change (Ceacc); the draft is yet to be evaluated by the Legislature. Previously, the Sierra Club and Amigxs del MAR have organized peaceful demonstrations in San Juan, drawing mid-to-high dozens of participants on December 11, March 15, July 8 in 2024 and July 10, 2023.
2. **FORECAST:** Given the widespread call to action, coupled with the mobilization capabilities of the over 15 participating groups, the slated protest is likely to draw a turnout in the mid-to-high hundreds. Precedent indicates that the demonstration will transpire peacefully, as seen during prior protests by the aforementioned environmental activist groups. Separately, the inauguration is anticipated to draw substantial turnout, in the high hundreds to low thousands, given a high-profile entertainment lineup. Nonetheless, localized scuffles cannot be ruled out in the event that the protest proceeds to the inauguration venues or disrupts the inauguration. Consequently, heightened security can be anticipated across all the aforementioned locations. In addition, given the vehicular restrictions due to the inauguration and the anticipated high turnout for both events, significant disruptions to vehicular and pedestrian traffic are expected in the vicinity of Puente Dos Hermanos and around the inauguration venues during the morning hours.

Source: [Sierra Club](#), [Amigxs del MAR](#)

Recommendations

Those operating or residing in San Juan on January 2 are advised to allot for disruptions to travel near Puente Dos Hermanos due to the slated protest and in the vicinity of the inauguration locations during the morning hours.