



Date: March 20, 2007
To: Honorable Mayor and City Council
From: Vice Mayor Bonnie Lowenthal, First District *BL*
Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell, Fourth District *(PA)*
Subject: Support of Senate Bill 974

The Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles are amongst the nation's most vital economic engines. However, the utilization of rail, trucks and ships to transport cargo has a detrimental effect on air quality in the region, as well as our infrastructure. The City of Long Beach has in the past ardently supported state legislation aimed at curbing the effects of the congestion and pollution in Long Beach and the surrounding region.

In 2005, the Long Beach City Council voted to support Senator Alan Lowenthal's Harbor Area Air Quality Investment Initiative bill package. Amongst the legislation included in the package was a Port container fee bill. The legislation would have imposed a 30-dollar per-container fee on cargo processed through the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles. Fees would have been used to address infrastructure issues, environmental mitigation and strengthen port security. Senator Lowenthal reintroduced the container fee bill in 2006. Senate Bill (SB) 927 passed both houses of the State Legislature and was subsequently vetoed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

In February, Senator Lowenthal introduced SB 974, a revised version of the container fee bill. The proposed legislation additionally requires the Port of Oakland to collect fees. Additionally, fees collected on cargo would not be applied to port security, but rather focus on infrastructure needs and air quality improvements. SB 974 could potentially generate over \$525 million dollars annually. These fees could be used to fund goods-movement related infrastructure and clean-air programs.

In an effort to protect our communities, we request our colleagues support Senator Lowenthal's SB 974.

Recommendation:

Request City Attorney to draft a resolution in support of SB 974; and request the City Manager to communicate the City Council's support of SB 974.

Attachments



Date: April 12, 2005

To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

From: Dan Baker, 2nd District Councilmember *DB*
Bonnie Lowenthal, 1st District Councilmember *BL*
Tonia Reyes Uranga, 7th District Councilmember *RU*
Rae Gabelich, 8th District Councilmember *RG*

Subject: Request the City Attorney to prepare a resolution supporting Senator Alan Lowenthal's Harbor Area Air Quality Investment Initiative (SB 760, SB 762, and SB 764)

Recommended Action

Request the City Attorney to prepare a resolution supporting Senator Alan Lowenthal's Harbor Area Air Quality Investment Initiative (SB 760, SB 762, and SB 764)

Background

The Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles are the third largest port complex in the world. The ports are important economic engines for the region and nation but port related activities have adverse impacts from congestion and pollution on surrounding areas.

Senator Alan Lowenthal has introduced three pieces of legislation that comprise the Harbor Area Air Quality Investment Initiative and attempt to mitigate the community impacts of port activities. The specific bills do the following:

- SB 760 would impose a fee on containers transported through the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles – the fee would go to programs that would improve air quality, strengthen port security and improve the transportation infrastructure by funding improvements to move more cargo by rail;
- SB 762 would create a port congestion and environmental quality district to reduce the truck fleet by prohibiting the dirtiest trucks from the ports; &
- SB 764, a reintroduction of last session's "no net increase" bill, will provide accountability to the emissions problems at the ports.

We would like to request our colleagues to support this resolution and these efforts to protect our residents.

Robert E. Shannon
City Attorney of Long Beach
333 West Ocean Boulevard
Long Beach, California 90802-4664
Telephone (562) 570-2200

1 RESOLUTION NO. RES-05-0026

2
3 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
4 CITY OF LONG BEACH IN SUPPORT OF THE HARBOR
5 AIR QUALITY INVESTMENT INITIATIVE (SENATE BILLS
6 760, 762 AND 764)

7
8 WHEREAS, it is necessary to enhance the security of the ports due to
9 unanticipated growth and new federal security requirements that are applicable to those
10 ports; and

11 WHEREAS, there is a need to mitigate the enormous burden imposed on
12 the highway transportation system serving the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach by
13 the overland movement of cargo shipped from and to those ports; and

14 WHEREAS, California ocean marine terminals are congested with long
15 lines forcing trucks to idle for extended periods of time; and

16 WHEREAS, the operation of the ports causes environmental pollution that
17 requires mitigation; and

18 WHEREAS, air pollution in California is an ongoing problem that impacts
19 the health and safety of its residents; and

20 WHEREAS, the air contaminants emitted from idling trucks significantly
21 increase pollution and dramatically reduce air quality in the area in and around the
22 ports; and

23 WHEREAS, Senate Bills 760, 762 and 764 comprise the Harbor Area Air
24 Quality Investment Initiative introduced by Senator Alan Lowenthal and would result in a
25 marked improvement to air pollution and port security;

26
27 NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Long Beach resolves
28 as follows:

Robert E. Shannon
City Attorney of Long Beach
333 West Ocean Boulevard
Long Beach, California 90802-4664
Telephone (562) 570-2200

1 Section 1. That the City Council hereby supports Senator Alan
2 Lowenthal's Harbor Area Air Quality Investment Initiative (Senate Bills 760, 762 and
3 764) and directs the City to advocate for the passage of this important initiative
4 designed to improve port security, air quality and the transportation infrastructure.

5 Sec. 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its
6 adoption by the City Council, and the City Clerk shall certify the vote adopting this
7 resolution.

8
9 I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the City
10 Council of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of May 10, 2005, by
11 the following vote:

12 Ayes: Councilmembers: Lowenthal, Baker, O'Donnell,
13 Richardson, Reyes Uranga,
14 Gabelich, Lerch, Kell.

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16 Noes: Councilmembers: None.

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18 Absent: Councilmembers: Colonna.

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22 _____
23 City Clerk

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27 HAM:fl
28 5/5/05
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