

Date:

August 1, 2008

To:

State Legislation Committee Members

From:

Patrick H. West, City Manager

Subject:

Support for Senate Bill 974: Ports: Congestion Relief: Air Pollution Mitigation:

Regulatory Fee

Attached for your information is a letter addressed to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in support for SB 974 (Lowenthal). This bill will allow each twenty-foot equivalent (TEU) shipping container processed at the Ports of Long Beach, Los Angeles and Oakland to be assessed a \$30 fee.

For more information, please contact Tom Modica, Manager of Government Affairs, at 8-5091.

cc:

Mayor and Members of the City Council Suzanne Frick, Assistant City Manager Reginald Harrison, Deputy City Manager Dick Steinke, Executive Director for POLB Tom Modica, Manager of Government Affairs Jyl Marden, City Council Liaison Mike Arnold and Associates

Attachment PHW: TM: pc M:\IGR\State\State Leg Comm\Memos2008\MCC_Support of SB974_7-31-08.doc



MAYOR BOB FOSTER

CITY OF LONG BEACH

July 25, 2008

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger Governor of the State of California State Capitol Building Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for Senate Bill 974: Ports: Congestion Relief: Air Pollution Mitigation: Regulatory Fee

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am writing to express our unconditional support for passage of Senate Bill 974 (Lowenthal): Ports: Congestion Relief: Air Pollution Mitigation: Regulatory Fee. Passage of this bill will allow each twenty-foot equivalent (TEU) shipping container processed at the Ports of Long Beach, Los Angeles and Oakland to be assessed a \$30 fee. The funds generated from this fee would be dedicated to programs to improve air quality and improve goods movement-related transportation infrastructure.

As home to the Port of Long Beach, the second busiest port in the nation, the City of Long Beach places the utmost priority on air quality and congestion relief improvements. Diesel-fueled engines have been found to contribute to 70 percent of the estimated airborne cancer risk in the South Coast Air Basin. Despite measures taken by both the City and the Port, Long Beach residents continue to be severely impacted by air pollution from mobile sources. SB 974 creates a dedicated funding stream to reduce air pollution and improve goods movement-related transportation infrastructure through the use of grade separations and rail expansion projects, all of which would reduce air pollution and associated health problems in Long Beach and across the South Coast Air Basin.

It is our goal to provide all of our City's residents with improved air quality, and the passage of SB 974 will enable the development of critical transportation infrastructure and air quality programs. On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I respectfully ask for your signature on SB 974.

Sincerely

CC:

Mayor Bob Foster

City of Long Beach

The Honorable Edward Vincent, State Senate, 25th District The Honorable Jenny Oropeza, State Senate, 28th District

The Honorable Jenny Oropeza, State Senate, 28 District The Honorable Mervyn Dymally, State Assembly, 52nd District

The Honorable Betty Karnette, State Assembly, 54th District

The Honorable Warren Furutani, State Assembly, 55th District