

BOARD MEETING DATE: April 7, 2023

AGENDA NO. 11

PROPOSAL: Authorize Executive Officer to Execute MOU with Long Beach Container Terminal for Submittal of Joint Port Infrastructure Development Program Grant Application.

SYNOPSIS: In February 2023, the U.S. Department of Transportation Maritime Administration released a Notice of Funding Opportunity under the Port Infrastructure Development Program to solicit projects that improve the safety, efficiency, or reliability of the movement of goods through ports and intermodal connections to the ports. South Coast AQMD is partnering with Long Beach Container Terminal (LBCT), one of the nation's busiest marine terminals, to submit a grant application to electrify LBCT's remaining pieces of terminal equipment. An MOU between joint applicants describing the roles and responsibilities of each entity is required as part of the application submission. This action is to seek approval to execute an MOU with LBCT.

COMMITTEE: No Committee Review

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Authorize the Executive Officer to execute an MOU with Long Beach Container Terminal for the submittal of a joint Port Infrastructure Development Program grant application.

Wayne Natri
Executive Officer

AK:MW:FX

Background

The Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) is a discretionary program administered by the Maritime Administration under the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT). For FY 2023/24, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act ("Bipartisan Infrastructure Law") and the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2023 appropriated a total of \$662,203,512 to the PIDP to make discretionary grants for eligible PIDP projects. PIDP grant funds are awarded on a competitive basis to projects

that reduce greenhouse gas and improve the safety, efficiency, or reliability of the movement of goods through ports and intermodal connections to ports.

The DOT is seeking to award projects that address equity and environmental justice for communities most impacted by climate change, air pollution, and other environmental hazards. Applicants must be a non-Federal public entity, or a private entity jointly with a non-Federal public entity. South Coast AQMD is partnering with Long Beach Container Terminal (LBCT), one of the nation's busiest marine terminals, to submit a project application that will allow them to electrify their remaining pieces of terminal equipment at the Port of Long Beach. The proposed joint project application, Zero-Emission Freight Investment in Resilient, Sustainable Transport Project, will develop the world's first container terminal with 100 percent zero-emission equipment and vehicles. LBCT will install electric-charging infrastructure to support their entire fleet of heavy-duty cargo handling equipment and terminal-operation vehicles and South Coast AQMD will administer the grant for this project. If the grant is awarded, South Coast AQMD will return to the Board to seek the necessary approvals to implement the project with LBCT.

Proposal

South Coast AQMD is partnering with LBCT to submit a joint project application for the PIDP grant opportunity. As part of the application process, an executed MOU that describes the roles and responsibilities of each entity is required, and this action seeks approval to authorize the Executive Officer to execute an MOU with LBCT.

Benefits to South Coast AQMD

If awarded, South Coast AQMD will have an important role in implementing the project. The installation of the electrical infrastructure under this project will result in emission reductions in communities impacted by emissions from terminal operations, which are primarily disadvantaged and low-income communities. This project will reduce NOx, Reactive Organic Gases, diesel particulate matter, and GHG emissions by installing the infrastructure necessary to support zero emissions Cargo Handling Equipment and terminal vehicles.

Resource Impacts

If the grant is awarded, the project cost will be covered by LBCT and the PIDP grant. Sufficient administrative funds will be requested from the PIDP grant for South Coast AQMD to oversee the project.