



THE PORT
OF LOS ANGELES
Executive Director's
Report to the

Board of Harbor Commissioners

DATE: APRIL 5, 2023

FROM: ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NO. _____ - APPROVAL OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AMONG THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES HARBOR DEPARTMENT, THE PORT OF LONG BEACH, AND THE MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A GREEN AND DIGITAL SHIPPING CORRIDOR PROGRAM

SUMMARY:

Staff requests approval of a proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among the City of Los Angeles Harbor Department (Harbor Department), the City of Long Beach acting by and through its Board of Harbor Commissioners (Port of Long Beach), and the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) to collaborate on the development and implementation of a Green and Digital Shipping Corridor (GDSC) between the respective port complexes. C40 Cities (C40), a global network of cities united to reduce climate risk, will support development of the GDSC as facilitator. The proposed MOU, which would be effective for three years, will advance the participants' mutual goals for decarbonization by advancing environmental performance in the maritime shipping industry and improving supply chain efficiencies through information digitalization. The proposed MOU is for the collaboration of ideas between the participating ports; therefore, funding by the Harbor Department is not required. The MOU will be formally executed at a Singapore Maritime Week event hosted by MPA in April.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Harbor Commissioners (Board):

1. Find that the Director of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed action is generally exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Section 15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines;
2. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding among the City of Los Angeles Harbor Department, the City of Long Beach, and the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore;
3. Authorize the Executive Director to execute and Board Secretary to attest to said Memorandum of Understanding for and on behalf of the Board of Harbor Commissioners; and
4. Adopt Resolution No. _____.

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SUBJECT: MOU WITH POLB AND MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE FOR GREEN AND DIGITAL SHIPPING CORRIDOR PROGRAM

DISCUSSION:

Background and Context – Facilitating global trade while protecting the environment is a delicate balance at the nation’s largest trade gateway. To strike that balance, the Harbor Department and Port of Long Beach are working with international partners to reduce air emissions, improve water quality, modernize facilities, and cultivate new technologies that will help ensure good jobs and a brighter future for millions of people. Strong relationships with other ports allow for this cooperative information-sharing of ideas to develop programs and technologies to achieve the Harbor Department’s sustainability goals.

International collaboration is specifically essential for efforts to decarbonize global supply chains. The proposed MOU will promote cooperation and best practices in the sustainable operation and advancement of the shipping lanes between international seaports through discussion, consultation, and the exchange of knowledge and ideas between the participating ports (Participants). The proposed MOU, which will be effective for three years, sets forth the Participants’ intent to cooperate in developing a Green and Digital Shipping Corridor (Transmittal 1). Staff is also working separately with the Shanghai Municipal Transportation Commission to develop a similar collaborative effort.

Green and Digital Shipping Corridor – The Participants, with C40 as facilitator, intend to cooperate and collaborate on establishing a Green and Digital Shipping Corridor that will advance the Participants mutual goals for decarbonization by improving environmental performance in the maritime shipping industry and improving supply chain efficiencies through information digitalization. In developing the GDSC, staff will work with the Participants to:

- Support the transition to low and zero carbon fuels on shipping routes between Singapore, the Port of Los Angeles, and the Port of Long Beach.
- Coordinate on pilot and demonstration projects and/or initiatives to advance the development and transition to low and zero emission fuels and technologies.
- Identify and collaborate on projects and initiatives to advance the development, demonstration, and adoption of digital technologies by the maritime shipping industry.
- Promote best practices and encourage standard setting across the maritime shipping and supply chain industries.
- Provide advocacy and thought leadership to communicate and amplify the aims and benefits of the GDSC.
- Share knowledge and information.

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ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

The proposed action is the approval of a MOU between the Harbor Department, the Port of Long Beach, and the MPA for the collaboration on sustainability and environmental issues, which is an action that can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility of a significant adverse effect on the environment. Therefore, the Director of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed action is generally exempt from the requirements of CEQA in accordance with Section 15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The proposed MOU will facilitate the development of the Green and Digital Shipping Corridor. Any spending associated with this initiative would be subject to Board review and approval as part of the annual budget adoption process.

CITY ATTORNEY:

The Office of the City Attorney has reviewed the MOU and this Board Report and there are no legal issues at this time.

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TRANSMITTALS:

1. Memorandum of Understanding

FIS Approval: MB
CA Approval: SO



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UPDATED: 4/5/2023 4:44pm