July 30, 2012

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE WILMINGTON YOUTH SAILING AND AQUATIC CENTER PROJECT

The City of Los Angeles Harbor Department (LAHD) has prepared this Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) to address the environmental impacts of the Wilmington Youth Sailing and Aquatic Center Project (hereafter “proposed project”). The proposed project site is within the Port on LAHD-owned property, at Berth 204 in Wilmington, and is bounded by Shore Road and Anchorage Road to the south and east and by the East Basin to the west.

The proposed project would construct a facility that includes the sailing center and adjacent boat dock and launch ramp and operate a program to teach underserved youths how to sail as well as provide instruction on environmental programs and Port activities. The primary objective of the program is to provide an opportunity for local and inner-city youths to develop life skills through sailing exercises, safe boating courses, and exposure to career opportunities at the Port. The program would accommodate up to 1,000 under-served, at-risk, 8 to 18 year old youths per year. Students would be from an area within Wilmington and surrounding communities.

The IS/MND has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code Section 21000 et. seq., and the State CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15000 et. seq.. This IS/MND includes a discussion of the proposed project’s effects on the existing environment, including the identification of mitigation measures to reduce potential impacts. No significant impacts that could not be mitigated to a less than significant level were identified. In accordance with the CEQA Statutes and Guidelines, this IS/MND is being circulated for a period of 30 days for public review and comment. The public has an opportunity to provide written comments on the information contained within the IS/MND.

The 30-day review period will start on August 1, 2012 and end on August 31, 2012. A copy of the document is available for public review on the Port of Los Angeles’ website at: http://www.portoflosangeles.org; the Los Angeles Harbor Department Environmental Management Division located at 222 West 6th Street, San Pedro; the Los Angeles City Library San Pedro Branch at 931 S. Gaffey Street; and at the Los Angeles City Library Wilmington Branch at 1300 North Avalon, Wilmington.

Comments on the IS/MND should be submitted in writing prior to the end of the 30-day public review period and must be postmarked by August 31, 2012. Please submit written comments to:
Christopher Cannon, Director
City of Los Angeles Harbor Department
Environmental Management Division
425 S. Palos Verdes Street
San Pedro, CA 90731

Written comments may also be sent via email to cegacommerts@portla.org. Comments sent via email should include the project title in the subject line and a valid mailing address in the email.

For additional information, please contact the LAHD Environmental Management Division at (310) 732-3675.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

CHRISTOPHER CANNON
Director of Environmental Management