



THE PORT  
OF LOS ANGELES

Executive Director's  
Report to the  
Board of Harbor Commissioners

**DATE: DECEMBER 16, 2025**

**FROM: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ - MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES HARBOR DEPARTMENT AND THE PORT OF LONG BEACH FOR THE UNIVERSAL TRUCKING APPOINTMENT SYSTEM PROJECT FUNDED BY THE CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (GO-BIZ) CONTAINERIZED PORTS INTEROPERABILITY GRANT PROGRAM**

**SUMMARY:**

Staff requests approval for the City of Los Angeles Harbor Department (Harbor Department or Port of Los Angeles) to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Port of Long Beach (POLB) to support the collaborative development, implementation, and governance of the Universal Trucking Appointment System project funded by the California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) Containerized Ports Interoperability Grant Program.

The intent of this MOU is to memorialize the understanding between the Harbor Department and the Port of Long Beach regarding the exchange of information necessary to support the continued interoperable use of the Universal Trucking Appointment System. The MOU shall become effective on the date it is executed by the Executive Director of the Harbor Department following authorization by the Board of Harbor Commissioners. It will remain in effect for one year and will automatically renew on an annual basis for up to three years in total. This MOU is administrative in nature and does not result in any financial impact.

**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 administratively exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Article II Section 2(f) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines;
2. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Harbor Department and POLB;

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3. Authorize the Executive Director to execute and the Board Secretary to attest the MOU; and
4. Adopt Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_.

**DISCUSSION:**

Background and Context – Through the California Budget Act of 2022, the California Governor and the California Legislature are investing in strengthening the state’s supply chain following the COVID-19 pandemic, which exposed inefficiencies in California’s goods movement system. As part of this effort, in 2023, the state allocated \$27,000,000 to provide direct grant support to containerized ports via the California Containerized Ports Interoperability Program (Program).

GO-Biz determined five California containerized ports to be eligible applicants to the Program: Port of Hueneme, Port of Long Beach, Port of Los Angeles, Port of Oakland, and Port of San Diego. These ports reached a MOU on April 26, 2023, that launched the “California Port Data Partnership” to support improved freight system resilience, goods movement efficiency, emissions reductions, and economic competitiveness.

On July 11, 2024, GO-Biz announced a grant award of \$7,950,000 to the Harbor Department for the implementation of three projects under the Program: (1) California Ports Mobile Application, (2) Universal Trucking Appointment System with AI Enhancement Project, and (3) Carbon Intensity Gateway (collectively, Projects). The Projects represent significant enhancements to the Port of Los Angeles’ data portal, delivered through the Port Optimizer™, and require coordinated planning and interoperability between the two San Pedro Bay Ports.

The Universal Trucking Appointment System (UTAS) with AI Enhancement module is a port-wide appointment system designed to streamline the ability for the port drayage community to make appointments across the San Pedro Bay Port Complex. The UTAS is a second phase of the Port’s Universal Appointment System, an appointment system currently in development that integrates transparent cross-terminal scheduling with near real-time container tracking data provided by the Port Optimizer™ Track and Trace system.

On October 22, 2024, the Board approved Resolution No. 24-10443 and UTAS Grant Agreement No. 24-10058, between the Harbor Department and GO-Biz to fund the UTAS project. Agreement No. 24-10058’s Exhibit A - Scope of Work required the Port of Los

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Angeles and the Port of Long Beach to enter into an MOU defining the roles and responsibilities of the Ports to develop the UTAS to meet UTAS project objectives in the Scope of Work. The draft MOU was attached as Exhibit H to Agreement No. 24-10058 approved by the Board, but still required additional technical details, which the ports were expected to complete. POLA and POLB have now completed such additional details and reached agreement on the final MOU (Transmittal 1), which has been reviewed by POLB's staff and Long Beach City Attorney and will go before their Harbor Commissioners in January 2026 for approvals. The MOU will be signed by both Ports after receiving these approvals and continue in effect until terminated by either party or project completion.

Approval of this action will authorize the Harbor Department to execute the MOU, enabling continued collaboration with POLB and alignment with GO-Biz Universal Trucking Appointment System project objectives.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:**

The proposed action is approval of an MOU with POLB to support the Universal Trucking Appointment System Project, which is an administrative activity. Therefore, the Director of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed action is administratively exempt from the requirements of CEQA in accordance with Article II Section 2(f) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

Approval of the proposed MOU will not impact the Harbor Department's FY2025/26 adopted budget as the funding has already been approved as set forth in Resolution No. 24-10443 and UTAS Grant Agreement No. 24-10058.

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**CITY ATTORNEY:**

The Office of the City Attorney has reviewed and approved the proposed MOU as to form and legality.

**TRANSMITTALS:**

1. POLA-POLB UTAS Memorandum of Understanding

FIS Approval: JS  
CA Approval: SO

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THOMAS E. GAZSI  
Chief of Public Safety and  
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APPROVED

*Dina Aryan Zahlan*  
for

EUGENE D. SEROKA  
Executive Director

SV:JL