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October 22, 2014

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT AN INITIAL STUDY/NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE AVALON FREIGHT SERVICES RELOCATION PROJECT

The City of Los Angeles Harbor Department (Harbor Department) has prepared this Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND) to address the environmental effects of the Avalon Freight Services Relocation Project (Project). The proposed Project consists of shifting existing Catalina Island freight operations from Berth 184 in Wilmington to Berth 95 in San Pedro. Berth 95 is currently the home of Catalina Express; the passenger ferry service between Catalina Island and San Pedro. The proposed Project is a joint venture between Catalina Express and Harley Marine Services.

The proposed Project involves landside and waterside improvements at Berth 95. Landside improvements include the construction of a 20,000 square-foot warehouse/office space in the existing parking structure at Berth 95. Waterside improvements would be made to accommodate one new barge and tug boat, and one new landing craft. The waterside improvements include the installation of approximately 22 pilings to secure three new floats as well as some minor modifications to the existing boat launch ramp.

A lease amendment between Avalon Freight Services and the Harbor Department are also part of this project as new parcel(s) will be acquired to accommodate the new warehouse/office space and additional parking needs. Parcels being considered are all within Berth 95 approximately 1,200 feet from the existing Catalina Express terminal. Passenger transport service will continue as usual from this location with no changes or site modifications proposed to these operations.

The project site has been identified on the Cortese list (Government Code Section 65962.5). This identification has been disclosed and evaluated in the Draft IS/ND.

The IS/ND 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/ND includes a discussion of the proposed project's effects on the existing environment. This document is an IS/ND because there are no impacts associated with the proposed Project that must be mitigated in order to be below significance thresholds. In accordance with the CEQA Statutes and Guidelines, the IS/ND 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/ND.

The 30-day review period starts on October 23, 2014, and ends on November 22, 2014. A copy of the document is available for public review on the Port of Los Angeles website at: <http://www.portoflosangeles.org>; the Harbor Department's Environmental Management Division located at 222 West 6th Street, Suite 900, 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.

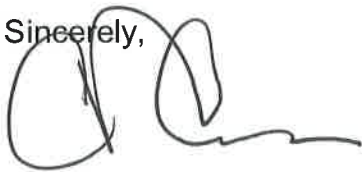
Comments on the IS/ND should be submitted in writing prior to the end of the 30-day public review period and must be postmarked by November 22, 2014. Please submit written comments to:

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 ceqacomment@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 Tara Tisopulos with the Harbor Department's Environmental Management Division at (310) 732-7713.

Sincerely,



CHRISTOPHER CANNON
Director of Environmental Management