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**THE PORT
OF LOS ANGELES**
Executive Director's
Report to the
Board of Harbor Commissioners

DATE: JUNE 29, 2011

FROM: PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NO. _____ FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE COASTAL COMMISSION'S CERTIFICATION OF PORT OF LOS ANGELES MASTER PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 26 – LA WATERFRONT

SUMMARY:

On June 16, 2011, the California Coastal Commission (Coastal Commission) certified, as submitted, the Port of Los Angeles Master Plan Amendment No. 26 – LA Waterfront (Amendment No. 26). Two additional actions are necessary in order to finalize the certification process: (1) The Board of Harbor Commissioners (Board) must adopt the Coastal Commission's certification, and (2) the Coastal Commission accepts the Board's action as being consistent with its certification. It is recommended that the Board resolve to adopt the Coastal Commission's certification and authorize staff to inform the Coastal Commission of the Board's action.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Harbor Commissioners:

1. Adopt the Coastal Commission's certification of Amendment No. 26 – LA Waterfront;
2. Authorize the City of Los Angeles Harbor Department staff to inform the Coastal Commission of the Board's action; and
3. Adopt Resolution No. _____.

DISCUSSION:

Project Description – Amendment No. 26 implements elements of both the Wilmington and San Pedro Waterfront projects. For the Wilmington Waterfront, the amendment would add Recreational and Commercial land uses to the backland area at Berths 183-186. These land uses are necessary to allow for the development of approximately 7 acres of open space, public access improvements, and visitor-serving commercial development. Amendment No. 26 would also allow for two minor fills to create approximately 2,200 square feet of land that will improve the existing bulkhead at Berths 183 and 186. This work is required to support the development of a planned public access pier as part of the waterfront promenade improvements in Wilmington.

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For the San Pedro Waterfront, Amendment No. 26 would allow for the creation of two new harbors, the Downtown Harbor and 7th Street Harbor, located in San Pedro at Berths 83 and 85. The Downtown Harbor is a 1.50-acre water area to accommodate the Los Angeles Maritime Institute's Top Sail Youth Program vessels, tugboats, Port-owned vessels, and other visiting ships. The 7th Street Harbor is a 0.32-acre water area for visiting tall ships and recreational vessels south of the Los Angeles Maritime Museum. The new harbors would create a total of 1.82 acres of new water area with a total volume of approximately 146,000 cubic yards of material being removed to create the harbor basins. These waterfront project elements were included in the Wilmington Waterfront Development Project and San Pedro Waterfront Project EIRs approved by the Board on June 18, 2009 and September 29, 2009, respectively. The current Port Master Plan does not address these waterfront project elements. The remaining elements of the waterfront projects are permitted under the current Port Master Plan.

Previous Board Actions – On February 3, 2011, pursuant to the California Coastal Act of 1976, as amended, the Board authorized the distribution of a draft of Amendment No. 26 to interested persons, organizations, and governmental agencies, including the Coastal Commission and all Port of Los Angeles tenants. The Notice of Completion for the amendment was published on February 16, 2011, and a public hearing on the draft of Amendment No. 26 was held on March 17, 2011. No comments were received at the public hearing.

On April 7, 2011, the Board adopted Amendment No. 26, and authorized the Executive Director to submit Amendment No. 26 to the Coastal Commission.

On June 16, 2011, the Coastal Commission certified Amendment No. 26 as submitted.

Process – For Amendment No. 26 to become effective, Section 13632(e) of the California Administration Code requires that the port governing body take formal action adopting the amendment as certified by the Coastal Commission and the Coastal Commission accepts the Board's action as being consistent with its certification.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

The proposed action is the adoption of the Coastal Commission's certification of Amendment No. 26, which implements elements of the Wilmington and San Pedro Waterfront Projects. Amendment of the Port Master Plan to support the Wilmington Waterfront Development Project was previously assessed under the Wilmington Waterfront Development Project EIR, which was certified by the Board on June 18, 2009. Amendment of the Port Master Plan to support the San Pedro Waterfront Project was previously assessed under the San Pedro Waterfront EIS/EIR, which was certified

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by the Board on September 29, 2009. As an administrative action, the Director of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed action is exempt from the requirements of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Article II, Section 2(i) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines

ECONOMIC BENEFITS:

This Board action will have no employment impact.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The mere adoption of the Coastal Commission's certification of Amendment No. 26 does not have any financial implication on the Port. Adoption of Amendment No. 26 would permit certain project elements of the LA Waterfront, as referenced above, as allowable uses and projects in the Port Master Plan. This Board action does not permit the implementation of those projects whose total estimated capital costs are \$203 million. Approval of specific projects and their associated capital costs will be brought before the Board in future separate actions.


CITY ATTORNEY:


The City Attorney has reviewed this and sees no legal issues at this time.

TRANSMITTAL:

1. California Coastal Commission correspondence dated June 24, 2011


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APPROVED:

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