

 **THE PORT OF  
LONG BEACH** NEWS RELEASE

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION \* 925 HARBOR PLAZA \* P.O. BOX 570 \* LONG BEACH CA 90801

**BOARD GIVES PRELIMINARY NOD TO TARIFF HIKE  
Mounting Infrastructure, Environmental and Security Costs Cited**

April 25, 2005

Facing costly infrastructure, environmental and security projects, the Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners' Maritime Services Committee voted preliminary approval on Monday, April 25, for a general tariff rate increase of 5 percent to be effective July 1.

The proposal is expected to go back to the Board of Harbor Commissioners in May for final approval. The proposed increases to the Port's shipping services fees would include hikes in wharfage, dockage, storage and demurrage.

The board acted after the California Association of Port Authorities voted to authorize member ports to increase tariff charges by as much as 5 percent beginning July 1, 2005. CAPA is composed of the state's 11 publicly owned commercial ports: Humboldt Bay, Hueneme, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Oakland, Redwood City, Richmond, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco and Stockton. CAPA enjoys antitrust immunity that allows member ports to collectively set rates.

In authorizing the increase, CAPA cited sharp increases in infrastructure, environmental and security costs to deal with soaring trade volumes and threats from terrorism. During the next five years, the Port of Long Beach has plans for more than \$1 billion in infrastructure improvements including environmental protection programs, and tens of millions of dollars more for tighter security.

"These projects will improve the efficiency of cargo-handling for those using our facilities, protect the Port, and improve the surrounding communities' quality of life," said Don Snyder, director of trade and maritime services.

Long Beach's last general tariff increase, also 5 percent, was approved in December 2003.

Contact: Trade and Maritime Services Director Don Snyder at (562) 590-4111.