

 **THE PORT OF
LONG BEACH** NEWS RELEASE

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION * 925 HARBOR PLAZA * P.O. BOX 570 * LONG BEACH CA 90802

**HARBOR BOARD ADOPTS SWEEPING ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY
Guidelines Formalize Long Beach as “Green Port”**

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The Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners has adopted a wide-ranging policy making environmental protection a top priority at the Port of Long Beach. The five-member governing board voted unanimously Monday, Jan. 31, to approve the Green Port Policy resolution.

The policy resolution formalizes five guiding principles for the Port’s environmental-protection efforts: 1) protect the local community and environment from harmful port impacts; 2) employ the best available technology to minimize port impacts and explore advance technology solutions; 3) promote sustainability in terminal design, development and operations; 4) distinguish the Port as a leader in environmental stewardship and regulatory compliance; and, 5) engage and educate the community about Port development and environmental programs.

“The Port of Long Beach has been a successful business leader for decades,” said Harbor Commission President John R. Calhoun. “For years, we also have had pioneering environmental programs. This new policy provides a clear framework for prioritizing our environmental protection efforts.”

The Green Port Policy is a further expansion of more than a decade of environmental programs developed and implemented by the Port to protect the harbor environment and enhance wildlife habitats. In 2003, the Port combined many of these into a comprehensive ongoing program called the Healthy Harbor Initiative, which addresses soil, sediment, air and water quality impacts.

“We know that protecting the environment is a good investment,” said Commissioner Mario Cordero. “Sustainability is a key to our future. We must develop and operate the Port to meet current needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. We must ensure that we are leaders in environmental stewardship.”

The Green Port Policy details initial efforts for implementation. These include developing aggressive programs to achieve all goals; maintaining the entire Healthy Harbor Initiative; developing methods to measure progress on all goals; providing incentives to promote program participation; and developing legislative proposals in support of established goals.

The Policy provides for periodic updates from the Port staff on progress to the Long Beach City Council and the Board of Harbor Commissioners.

Contact:

Art Wong, Port of Long Beach Media Relations Manager
(562) 590-4123, or wong@polb.com