



News Release

Extra \$9 million in Incentives Approved Vessel, terminal operators and the environment to benefit

February 1, 2010

The Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners on Monday gave preliminary approval to nearly \$9 million in extra incentives to further boost participation in the Green Flag air quality program and to increase the use of trains to move import and export cargo containers.



The Green Flag Program, which gives financial incentives to ship operators to slow down their vessels near the Port, will double to \$6 million a year. Currently, nearly all ships docking at the Port of Long Beach slow down within a 20-mile zone around the harbor. The added incentives are expected to encourage more ships to slow within 40 miles, further decreasing air pollution from the ships' diesel engines. In 2009, the Green Flag Program helped reduce about 2,000 tons of pollution; the expanded incentives could reduce an additional 300 tons.

For a copy of the Board agenda item click [here](#).

The Port also will add nearly \$6 million in incentives to a program designed to attract more rail-borne cargo through the Port of Long Beach. The program, which gives fee discounts to terminal operators, was set to expire on April 30, 2010, but it is now extended until December 31, 2010. The program is designed bring more import cargo through the Port of Long Beach and to help the Port's customers stay competitive during the current economic downturn.

For a copy of the Board agenda item click [here](#).

In a related action, the Board also agreed to [eliminate](#) potential double wharfage fees for export containers that are transported between terminals.

The Board is expected to give final approval to the items in the coming weeks.

Contact: Art Wong, Port of Long Beach Assistant Director of Communications/Public Information Officer, (562) 590-4123, (562) 619-5665 (cell), or wong@polb.com.

Port of Long Beach - www.polb.com
925 Harbor Plaza, Long Beach, CA 90808

To view our Privacy Policy click [here](#).