

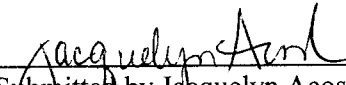


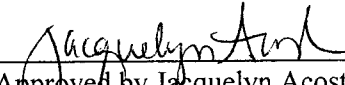
# City of Carson

## Report to Mayor and City Council

December 17, 2013  
New Business Consent

**SUBJECT: UPDATE ON ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION OF FREIGHT RECOMMENDATIONS**

  
Submitted by Jacquelyn Acosta  
Acting City Manager

  
Approved by Jacquelyn Acosta  
Acting City Manager

### **I. SUMMARY**

The city's federal lobbyist, John Young, has been working with Carson's member of Congress, Janice Hahn, on a number of issues. He will provide an update on freight-related issues impacting Carson.

### **II. RECOMMENDATION**

RECEIVE and FILE this report.

### **III. ALTERNATIVES**

TAKE another action the Council deems appropriate.

### **IV. BACKGROUND**

The purpose of the presentation is to provide a background on the city's environmental mitigation infrastructure issues. This presentation will also map out next steps for Council involvement in advocating on these infrastructure issues during the next transportation reauthorization bill (MAP-21) beginning in January. The issues, projects and strategy to be discussed are based on the July 22<sup>nd</sup> letter (Exhibit No. 1) from the city to Representative Hahn requesting a hearing on environmental mitigation which included broad recommendations for the next transportation reauthorization bill (MAP-21).

The basis for the environmental mitigation hearing request is based on the city's unique location and direct involvement/impact on the national freight network. With a population of close to 100,000 and major intermodal terminals and infrastructure such as the Alameda Corridor and the I-710, the city faces unique challenges. The recommendations presented are based on long-time Carson infrastructure projects and issues that the Council has been made aware of throughout the years, but has not addressed or discussed these as a package or the basis for a federal strategy. Examples cited in the Rep. Hahn letter are the Alameda Street sound wall project that has an immediate and long term impact on the residents of the Dominquez Village neighborhood. Additional issues raised are the impact of port activities, especially regarding heavy trucks and the impact these over-sized vehicles are having on the city's infrastructure. Other long term health issues, include air quality issues stemming from the truck and rail traffic

generated from the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. The city has been supportive of several zero emission vehicle initiatives and projects, specifically the current catenary pilot project along Alameda Street and potential zero emission truck lanes along the I-710.

The presentation will provide background on the projects, report on recent meetings in Washington DC with Congressional Member and Staff from the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee and Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. A strategy to move forward during the reauthorization of MAP-21 will also be presented and discussed.

**V. FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

**VI. EXHIBITS**

1. Letter to Congresswoman Hahn dated July 22, 2013. (pgs. 3-4)

Prepared by: Barry Waite, Business & Employment Development Manager

TO: Rev11-25-2013

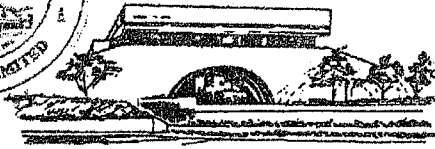
Reviewed by:

City Clerk	City Treasurer
Administrative Services	Public Works
Community Development	Community Services

**Action taken by City Council**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Action \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## CITY OF CARSON

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
JIM DEAR

July 22, 2013

The Honorable Janice Hahn  
House of Representatives  
44<sup>th</sup> Congressional District  
404 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Hahn,

On behalf of the City of Carson, I want to congratulate you on your appointment to the *Panel on 21st Century Freight Transportation*. We have been following your work on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and your leadership in creating the Port Caucus with great interest. These are issues of vital importance to the City of Carson and to the health of our region. I also believe there is an opportunity for the Freight panel to address some of the environmental and health issues that are ever present in communities that support major freight activities. We would request the *Panel on 21st Century Freight Transportation* convene a hearing to further examine environmental impacts and mitigation policies surrounding our nation's freight networks and policies while doing no harm to economic development and job creation.

Carson, like many impacted communities along the nation's freight network, has struggled to find the right balance between addressing our community's environmental and health needs with the growing demands of a robust freight and logistics industry. Carson has long been at the center of our region's freight industry while proactively planning and building major redevelopment projects within the community for a growing population of nearly 100,000 and close to 7,500 businesses. Our residents and the 50,000 people, who commute daily to jobs in Carson, are navigating and sharing our city borders with major national freight arterials such as the Alameda Corridor, the I-710 and ever growing logistics activity generated by the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles all within a 19 mile radius.

In Carson, we have identified mitigation strategies to protect the residents in the Dominquez Village neighborhood, for example, where residents are within 100 yards of the Alameda Corridor and a major truck route. A sound wall to protect these citizens is desperately needed. There should be a clear policy on noise mitigation and air quality standards for impacted communities. Affordable technology is now available to address some of the more common air quality and sound mitigation challenges. How to integrate this technology into comprehensive planning and mitigation strategies would be an example of how these policies would benefit from an updated review by the Freight panel.

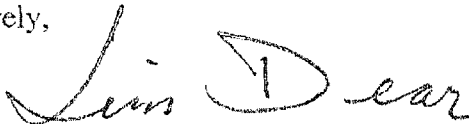
The Honorable Janice Hahn  
July 22, 2013  
Page 2 of 2

In addition, we would recommend consideration of a low emission or zero emission freight policy for areas that are heavily impacted by train and truck use. An example where this policy could be implemented is the I-710 where truck lanes will be added to address the increasing volume of freight coming into and exiting the southern California region. This zero emission policy could be extended into communities as well. We would also recommend that a formula approach based on the number of large trucks performing essential port activity be measured against wear and tear on a community's infrastructure and the impact on the health the residents. Additionally, we would recommend consideration of a broad rail mitigation and safety policy that would protect residents in communities along a major rail freight route such as the Alameda Corridor.

Finally, I want to thank you again for your time and effort on behalf of the City of Carson on these major infrastructure and redevelopment issues. Carson has a long history in this subject matter and would like to serve as a resource to you and your colleagues as you develop a comprehensive freight policy. I am confident that other communities, regions, logistics companies and technology companies across the country share similar issues and concerns and would be willing to offer informative and instructional policy recommendations at a freight environmental mitigation hearing.

The City of Carson looks forward to working with you on these issues. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Cliff Graves, the Community Development Department Director for the City of Carson at (310) 952-1707 to discuss these issues further.

Sincerely,



Jim Dear  
MAYOR

cc: Carson City Council  
John Wogan, President, Carson Chamber of Commerce  
Gary L. Toebben, President & CEO Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce  
Jacki Bacharach, Executive Director, South Bay Cities Council of Governments  
Hasan Ikhrata, Executive Director, Southern California Association of Governments  
Richard Powers, Executive Director, Gateway Cities  
Geraldine Knatz, Ph.D., Executive Director, Port of Los Angeles  
Al Moro Acting Executive Director, Port of Long Beach  
Eric Garcetti, Mayor of Los Angeles  
Bob Foster, Mayor of Long Beach  
Joe Buscaino, Councilman City of Los Angeles

