



City of Santa Barbara

Office of Mayor

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March 18, 2013

Helene Schneider
Mayor

Mary Nichols, Chair
California Air Resources Board
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Re: Support for Use of Cap-and-Trade Auction Funds for a Vessel Speed Reduction Incentive Program along the California Coast

Dear Chair Nichols and California Air Resources Board Members:

The City of Santa Barbara supports the use of Cap-and-Trade auction revenues for development and implementation of a Vessel Speed Reduction Incentive Program along the California coast to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, as proposed by the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District.

GHG reductions from the shipping sector align with AB1532 transportation objectives and with the City's Climate Action Plan (2012). A speed reduction incentive program would reduce large amounts of GHG emissions from freight transportation along the California coast, much of which is concentrated in the Santa Barbara Channel. Significant co-benefits to the City of Santa Barbara and to other coastal communities include:

- Public health benefits from the reductions of emissions of air toxics, particulate, nitrogen oxides and other pollutants.
- Improved ability to attain air quality standards. The proposed program will reduce emissions of ozone-forming pollutants (particularly nitrogen oxides). This will help the Santa Barbara area move towards attainment of the state ozone standard.
- Economic benefits through relieving pressure on business and industrial sources that have historically borne the brunt of regulations stemming from local ozone attainment plans.
- Enhanced protection for the endangered whale species that are precious to our City's residents, visitors, and tourist industry, and critically important to the health of marine environments off the California coast, especially the national marine sanctuaries.

We believe you have a unique opportunity here to reduce shipping emissions much to the benefit of our City and of coastal communities throughout California.

Thank you for your consideration.

Helene Schneider
Mayor, City of Santa Barbara

cc: Representative Lois Capps
Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson
Assembly Member Das Williams
Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors



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