



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: CEO  
Department No.: 012  
For Agenda Of: 3/19/2013  
Placement: Administrative  
Estimated Tme: NA  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

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TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Chandra L. Wallar, County Executive Officer, 568.3400  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Dennis Bozanich, Assistant to the CEO, 568-3400

*CW*

**SUBJECT: Vessel Speed Reduction Incentive Program Plan Letter of Support**

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

Authorize the Board Chair to sign a letter of support for a plan to fund a Vessel Speed Reduction Incentive Program off of the Santa Barbara County coast through California's Cap and Trade auction proceeds.

**Summary Text:**

The Letter of Support will accompany the submission of a Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) project plan to create a Vessel Speed Reduction Incentive Program along the Santa Barbara County coastline funded through California's Cap-and-Trade auction proceeds.

**Background:**

The 2013 County of Santa Barbara Legislative Platform, adopted unanimously in January 2013, supports marine vessel speed reduction as a means of reducing air emissions that impact public health and make it difficult to achieve air quality standards. On March 11, 2013, the Legislative Program Committee approved the forwarding of a request, to the entire Board for approval, of a letter of support for a program designed to incentivize marine vessel speed reduction. Specifically, the Letter of Support advises the California Air Resources Board of the Board of Supervisor's support for including APCD's Vessel Speed Reduction Program in a three-year investment plan that is beginning development for Cap-and-Trade auction proceeds. The Letter of Support can be found at *Attachment A*.

APCD's program plan outlines a two phase planning process followed by an implementation phase. The first two phases are anticipated to last a couple of years. Details on the plan are *Attachment B*. The proposed Marine Vessel Speed Reduction Incentive Program is modeled after a successful, existing program used by the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. If implemented, the program would pay an incentive to shipping companies for the additional costs to slow marine vessels to 12 knots or less within the Santa Barbara Channel. Initial calculations indicate that reducing the speed of marine vessels would reduce CO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> by 51% by the year 2020.

It is envisioned that incentives would be paid from proceeds of the Cap-and-Trade auctions of greenhouse gas (GHG) credits held following adoption of Assembly Bill 32. AB 1532: *Greenhouse Gas Reduction Account* authorizes the legislature to develop a three-year investment plan to use the auction proceeds to reduce GHG emissions in California. Given the development time for the investment plan and the three-year term of the investment plan, APCD's program may not receive funding FY2015-16 but it is important to put the program forward now for full consideration. The Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District recommends that some auction proceeds be invested to implement a Vessel Speed Reduction Incentive Program. The proposed program aligns with investment plan objectives to reduce GHG emissions from transportation, and would achieve reductions within the three-year plan horizon.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

None

**Attachments:**

Attachment A – Letter of Support

Attachment B – Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District submission to the California Air Resources Board

**Authored by:**

Dennis Bozanich, Assistant to the County Executive Officer

**CC:**