

**Metro**Los Angeles County  
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Los Angeles, CA 90012-2952213.922.20  
metro.net**AD HOC SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE  
JULY 20, 2011****SUBJECT: COUNTYWIDE ZERO-EMISSION TRUCKS COLLABORATIVE****ACTION: RECEIVE AND FILE****RECOMMENDATION**

Receive and file report on the formation of a Countywide Zero-Emission Trucks Collaborative focused on technology advancement and implementation within Los Angeles County.

**ISSUE**

At the request of partner agencies, Metro is taking the lead in forming a Countywide Zero-Emission Trucks Collaborative to promote consistency among public agencies in working to catalyze the development and deployment of zero-emission trucks in Los Angeles County. This collaborative would include the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles, Caltrans, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) and the Southern California Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD).

**BACKGROUND**

Advancing zero-emission truck technology and implementation will help achieve the air quality objectives of Metro's Long Range Transportation Plan, goods movement program, and the agency's over-arching goal of creating a more sustainable transportation system. Similarly, the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, Caltrans, SCAG and SCAQMD have an interest and are actively engaged in catalyzing the development and deployment of zero-emission trucks. Our collective efforts will be critical to meeting the stringent, federal health-based air standards proposed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The SCAQMD believes that should the new standards be adopted a significant percentage of vehicles will need to achieve zero or near-zero-emissions by 2023. The commercialization of zero-emission trucks will also promote sustainability, economic vitality, and reduce our region's dependency on foreign oil.

Metro's Highway Program is currently implementing a series of studies to better address future regional transportation needs based on projected growth within goods movement. As part of the I-710 Corridor Project EIR/EIS, Metro has become engaged in conversations on zero-emission trucks. This study includes an Alternative with a 17 mile zero-emission, dedicated freight corridor in response to community air quality concerns. Metro has been investigating vehicle technologies that could meet the zero-emission requirement of the corridor. Initial findings suggest that there are no major technology barriers to developing zero-emission trucks that can be used on the I-710 Corridor. However, there are series of challenges to overcome and critical stages in the development process to be completed before commercialization of zero-emission trucks will be realized. Overcoming these challenges is critical to the viability of the zero-emission corridor Alternative.

## **DISCUSSION**

Establishing a coalition focused on technology advancement and implementation will help align Metro's policies and leverage its investments with those of partner agencies to realize our common vision for zero-emission trucks, clean air, and sustainable communities. While interagency collaborations have formed to address other issues facing the goods movement industry, there is currently no subregional/regional coalition for seeking funding for demonstration projects and for developing zero-emission trucks. Metro is well-positioned to lead a coalition on technology advancement, building off of the regional planning work that has been conducted at SCAG and through the Southern California Freight Gateway Collaborative. Issues to be addressed by the coalition will include, but not be limited to, developing a common definition of "zero-emissions trucks," establishing performance standards, coordinating infrastructure policies/standards, and seeking funding for demonstration projects.

## **NEXT STEPS**

Metro will take the lead in forming a countywide coalition to promote zero-emission trucks. The first step in this process will be drafting a memorandum of understanding between the parties that clearly defines the purpose and need of the coalition, including a common definition for zero-emission trucks and a set of performance outcomes to support alignment of agency efforts.

Staff will provide an update on this effort to the Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee before the January 2012 Board Meeting, concurrent with the committee's planned meeting on goods movement and vehicle technology.

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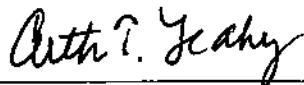
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