

JULIA BROWNLEY
26TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

HOUSE VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES
AND THE ENVIRONMENT



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March 16, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chair
House Appropriations Committee
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Port of Hueneme Zero Emission Street Sweeper in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Port of Hueneme/Oxnard Harbor District, located at 333 Ponoma Street, Port Hueneme, CA 93041.

The funding would be used for the purchase of one state-of-the-art, zero emissions street sweeper. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the Port of Hueneme is an essential center of economic development and job creation in Ventura County and the region. To continue operations, the port must remain compliant with relevant federal Clean Water Act and Clean Air Act regulations.

Presently the Port of Hueneme operates a small under-powered sweeper cart that is significantly undersized for its role of helping to removing pollutants from outdoor surfaces at the Port. In addition to the small sweeper, the Port relies on passive filtration systems retrofitted into its catch basins and drainage systems to remove water borne pollutants from runoff during rain events. These pollutants can include sediments and dissolved metals. Currently under its NPDES permit coverage, the Port is required to implement more aggressive control technologies that will enable concentrations of pollution in collected stormwater samples to meet California State standards which are mandated in the State's Industrial Stormwater General Permit. After several years of use of the basic in-drain filter systems, their effectiveness has proven to be limited and it has become clear that removing pollutant loads by eliminating the pollution before it is mobilized by rainfall will be both a more effective and cheaper solution to reducing pollutant concentrations in storm runoff from the Port. For this reason, the ZESS project proposes the purchase of a state-of-the-art zero emission air vacuum street sweeper which will collect pollutants like dirt, sand, rust, and brake dust before they can be mobilized by rainfall and enter adjacent harbor waters where they could cause impacts to local biota and aquatic ecosystems.

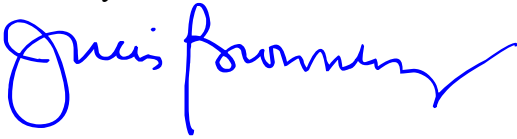
Presently, the Port is required to gather runoff samples from four qualified storm events per year and these samples are measured for concentrations of certain pollutants including dissolved metals. We anticipate that the success of this project can be measured very easily as it is anticipated that after beginning regular street sweeping on Port that the concentrations of dissolved metals seen in our collected storm samples will decrease substantially. The samples are analyzed by an accredited third-party laboratory and follows EPA approved testing protocols such that the data is sufficiently valid for permit compliance and thus will be worthy of demonstrating the quantified effectiveness of the use of the street sweeper which we would like to purchase

with these funds. This proposed ZESS project would include the one-time purchase of a single street sweeper. The requested funds would only cover the purchase of the sweeper and any additional implementation funds for staff training, charging infrastructure, etc. and will be covered by the Port itself.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 USC 5305(a)(2). Additionally, it will help ensure this critical gateway for commerce and international trade remains operational, and compliant under the Clean Water Act (33 USC) and Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. §7401 et seq.).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Julia Brownley", with a stylized flourish at the end.

JULIA BROWNLEY
Member of Congress