



## Environmental Health Coalition Recommendations for Port Vision Plan Workshop

EHC makes the following suggestions for **ATTACHMENT D**

### A. BASIS FOR VISION: **One Bay, Rich Diversity, Sustainable Future**

Recognition of the multiple uses of the Bay and the need to sustain them into the future is a more appropriate and relevant overarching principle. To sustain all uses it will require planning and vision to maximize public benefits and access, protect community health, provide regional economic benefits, drive clean technology, and emphasize a ‘whole bay’ ecosystem approach to management of the Bay and protection of natural resources.

### B. GUIDELINES :

#### 1. **Improve Air Quality, Public Health, and Environmental Justice**

- Port and tenant operations will seek to operate in a manner that will not increase health risks to residents in adjacent communities.
- Implement practices that minimize or eliminated the negative environmental impacts on the communities of Barrio Logan and Old Town National City through a Port **Environmental Justice Plan and air pollution reduction measures.**
- Any expansion of goods movement and other operations will require associated actions to reduce air pollution, traffic, environmental pollution and health impacts to impacted communities. To address this, a **Clean Air and Clean Freight Funding Plan** must be implemented.

#### 2. **Respond and Prepare for Climate Change**

- Create a clear path to **implement the Port Climate Action Plan** to meet aggressive GHG and pollution reduction targets, increase energy efficiency, and clean renewable energy sources to meet the 2050 state reduction goals.
- Address sea level rise through a meaningful **Adaptation Plan** and pursue early actions to improve resilience, use natural infrastructure, and assist communities in responding to sea level rise and other climate change impacts such as excessive heat events and flooding.

#### 3. **Conserve, restore, and enhance natural resources and increase ecosystem services.**

- Massive losses have already occurred in San Diego Bay. Sea level rise and other climate change impacts threaten the remaining resources. Existing and potential areas for restoration are protected and planned carefully so that natural resources can be sustained into the future. Ecosystem services must be understood and maintained and enhanced through best science and careful planning.

**EMPOWERING PEOPLE. ORGANIZING COMMUNITIES. ACHIEVING JUSTICE.**  
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EHC Recommendations regarding **ATTACHMENT B Assessment of Conditions and Opportunities.**

EHC Recommends that more analysis/assessment be done in these areas:

**Acknowledge the finite nature of the Bay and tidelands.**

Yes, the bay is beautiful but it is finite. The longstanding, stable presence of the Navy-- now and into the future-- limits the type, location, and amount of other uses of the Bay. Any plan for the next 50 years must understand and reflect that the Bay serves multiple uses and has a limited carrying capacity. The existing development areas need to be more efficient and allow more public uses. The natural areas need to be protected and expanded to be sustained.

**Potential to achieve Clean Goods Movement, support Clean Technologies, and reduce GHGs**

This area is not addressed in the draft. The California Cleaner Freight Coalition's recent report, *Moving California Forward, Zero and Low-Emissions Freight Pathways*, as well as the recent Press Telegram op-ed from State Senators Fran Pavley and Ricardo Lara offer great information to begin to understand the importance and potential of reducing air pollution and impacts from Port operations. This is a key area of priority if the Port intends to grow in the future.

**Include the global environmental context.** The draft does a good job looking at the global business context, but says nothing about the global environmental context. This includes rising seas, crashing fisheries, acidification of the ocean, and loss of ecosystems services leading to mass extinctions.

**Quantify the environmental losses to date:** In the name of 'seeking balance', the draft looks at development now and begs for more. However, the analysis must include the losses to the natural ecosystem of the Bay that have already occurred. To recommend more deep water and the destruction of existing salt marshes in the name of 'balance' is to completely misunderstand the situation. An analysis of vegetation and habitat types, links to other areas, the biological richness of species, and many other aspects is completely missing from the draft.

**Early actions that can be taken to prepare for Sea Level Rise**

There are actions such as are outlined in the *San Diego Bay Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategy*; *Safeguarding California Plan: Reducing Climate Risk*; and, other statewide strategies to protect, maintain, and where feasible, enhance and restore the overall quality of the coastal zone environment and its natural and artificial resources. These should be analyzed in the document.