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LAURIE GUILLEN  
Councilmember

VILMA CUELLAR STALLINGS  
Councilmember

October 1, 2020

Ms. Bonnie Lowenthal, President  
Long Beach Board of Harbor Commissioners  
Port of Long Beach  
415 W. Ocean Boulevard  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Ms. Lowenthal:

As we approach Clean Air Day on October 7<sup>th</sup> and on behalf of the City of Paramount, I would like to congratulate the Long Beach Harbor Commission for adopting a Clean Truck Fund (CTF) fee at its meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020. With the I-710 Corridor adjacent to Paramount and about seven other cities, the CTF will have lasting benefits to our region. As a result, we have been closely monitoring your efforts to establish a CTF fee that helps the Port of Long Beach and the Port of Los Angeles transition to zero emission trucks by 2035, a goal established in the 2017 Clean Air Action Plan (CAAP). This is a significant step in the right direction, considering that many variables must be taken into account when establishing a feasible and impactful CTF program, such as its impact on tariffs, the current zero emission infrastructure, costs to transition to zero emission trucks, and regulatory standards by California Air Resource Board (CARB) for clean air trucks.

The City of Paramount considers itself a stakeholder in the discussion of regional air quality issues in an effort to ensure the long-term health of our community. Our dedication to this cause is exemplified by actions we took during an unfortunate incident that occurred in our Community. In October 2016, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) notified the City of extremely high levels of Hexavalent Chromium in the air in the City of Paramount. With a history of heavy metal manufacturing before the City was incorporated in 1957, the readings of Hexavalent Chromium were generated by a few metal companies in town due to their industrial operations such as metal plating, forging, and heat treating. Actions Paramount took within the first year included:

- Forming an Air Quality Subcommittee to provide community input and recommendations.
- Establishing a moratorium on new metal companies in town.
- Organizing town hall meetings in the community with SCAQMD.
- Creating a City website (ParamountEnvironmental.org) dedicated to environmental quality in the City.

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*Dedicated to providing fiscally responsible services that maintain a vibrant community.*

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- Working with SCAQMD to have air monitors installed at 38 neighborhood locations and 10 schools. Between 2016 and 2020, more than 6,000 samples have been taken.
- Coordinating joint-agency inspections of private facilities that led to over 3 dozen Notices of Violation (NOVs) and approximately 94 Notices to Comply (NCs).
- Establishing extensive zone changes through the Air Quality Subcommittee.
- Performing voluntary soil and water testing to proactively assess any potential health issues.

As we look to the future, Paramount is determined to play a significant role in discussions regarding regional air quality. Surrounded by three freeways with major truck traffic carrying goods to and from the Port of Long Beach, the City of Paramount believes that implementing a CTF fee is a great start and we encourage the Commission to continue its efforts. With the current CTF fee projected to generate approximately \$90 million per year, we believe that periodically evaluating the fee is a prudent effort to improve regional air quality.

Moving forward, please consider the City of Paramount a partner in the effort to improve our regional air quality. We would like to offer our support in your efforts to meet your 2035 zero emission goals. We thank you again and look forward to partnering with you to achieve a healthier and cleaner region.

CITY OF PARAMOUNT



Peggy Lemons  
Mayor

CC: Mario Cordero, Executive Director, Port of Long Beach