

DRAFT**SAN DIEGO UNIFIED PORT DISTRICT****RESOLUTION xxxx****RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SAN DIEGO
UNIFIED PORT DISTRICT'S VOLUNTARY VESSEL
SPEED REDUCTION PROGRAM DATED
NOVEMBER 2021, IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE
MARITIME CLEAN AIR STRATEGY**

WHEREAS, the San Diego Unified Port District (District) is a public corporation created by the Legislature in 1962 pursuant to Harbors and Navigation Code Appendix I (Port Act); and

WHEREAS, Section 87 of the Port Act allows for the establishment, improvement, and conduct of a harbor, and for the construction, reconstruction, repair, maintenance, and operation of wharves, docks, piers, slips, quays, and all other works, buildings, facilities, utilities, structures, and appliances incidental, necessary, or convenient, for the promotion and accommodation of commerce and navigation; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Port Commissioners (BPC) adopted a resolution to implement the Vessel Speed Reduction (VSR) program on February 3, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the VSR program was and continues to be to reduce air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions from cargo and cruise ships by reducing vessel speeds in the vicinity of San Diego Bay; and

WHEREAS, the VSR program is a voluntary emission reduction strategy led by the District and program participants are commercial ocean-going vessels greater than 10,000 gross tons calling at the District's marine terminals; and

WHEREAS, the District's existing VSR program targets 80% participation and identifies a 12 nautical mile per hour speed limit for cargo ships, and a 15 nautical mile per hour speed limit for cruise ships, through a zone extending 20 nautical miles seaward from the end of Point Loma; and

WHEREAS, over time, several District policies and strategies have been developed that rely on vessel speed reduction participation as a greenhouse gas reduction tool, including the District's recently adopted Maritime Clean Air Strategy (MCAS), Climate Action Plan and mitigation measures related to on-terminal project approvals; and

XXXX

WHEREAS, an update to the District's program contains more current information that better aligns with emission reduction goals and strategies; and

WHEREAS, the proposed VSR program seeks to expand the zone from 20 nautical miles to 40 nautical miles, it will increase the annual participation goal from 80 percent to 90 percent, and it will employ a weighted average speed method of calculation to determine levels of participation in the program; and

WHEREAS, preliminary estimates suggest that if 90 percent participation is reached within the 40 nautical mile VSR zone, the proposed VSR Program Update would reduce annual emission for diesel particulate matter (DPM) by 4.3 tons, nitrogen oxides (NOx) by 225.5 tons, and GHG by 9,791 tons; and

WHEREAS, new methodologies in data visualization and greenhouse gas accounting described in the VSR program document will allow District staff to more accurately report on emission reductions that have been achieved; and

WHEREAS, following the implementation of the program update, staff will continue to reach out to community members, tenants, and maritime interests to raise awareness of the program, award outstanding participants, and discuss participation levels; and

WHEREAS, the program does not replace International or United States Inland Rules of the Road; and

WHEREAS, program participation will be reported on the District's external web page by the end of the FY22, and ocean carriers exhibiting participation greater than ninety percent will be recognized through awards and marketing efforts; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends the BPC approve the VSR program dated November 2021 in alignment with the MCAS.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Port Commissioners of the San Diego Unified Port District (District) that the Vessel Speed Reduction Program dated November 2021 is hereby approved in alignment with the District's Maritime Clean Air Strategy.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:
GENERAL COUNSEL

By: Assistant/Deputy General Counsel

XXXX

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Port Commissioners of the San Diego Unified Port District, this 9th day of November 2021, by the following vote: