

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** APCD Community Advisory Council

**From:** Mary Byrd, Public Information Officer (961-8833)

**Subject:** Update on Ship Speed Reduction Trial

**Meeting:** October 29, 2014

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Working with partners, the District is currently implementing a trial incentive program in the Santa Barbara Channel to slow ships down for cleaner air and whale protection. The program started July 1, 2014, and will continue through October 31, 2014. Shipping companies receive an incentive of \$2,500 for each registered trip through the Channel at an average speed of 12 knots or less.

The trial is a collaborative effort between the District, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (NOAA-CINMS) and the Environmental Defense Center, with funding from the District, the Ventura County Air Pollution Control District, and the Santa Barbara Foundation, and incentive payments administered by the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation. The trial program is designed to: assess potential air quality and whale protection benefits; test the shipping industry's willingness to participate; refine ship tracking mechanisms; and lay the foundation for establishing a larger-scale program in the future.

Seven global shipping companies are currently participating: COSCO, Hapag-Lloyd, K Line, Maersk Line, Matson, United Arab Shipping Company, and MOL. The program has funding to incentivize 32 transits.

Upon completion of the trial period, the District and partners will prepare a report on findings from the trial program, and indicate ways the program could be expanded in the future.

At the October 29, 2014 meeting, the Community Advisory Council will receive an update on the trial program.