May 5, 2016

The Honorable Jose Medina
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 2141
Sacramento, CA 94249

Re: Support for AB 1780 (Medina) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: trade corridors

Dear Assembly Member Medina:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Assembly Bill 1780 (Medina). This bill would establish a dedicated funding stream for the Trade Corridor Improvement Fund (TCIF) by continuously appropriating 20 percent of the annual Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) funds.

The City of Long Beach is home to the Port of Long Beach (the Port), which is a major local, State, and federal economic engine that moves $180 billion worth of goods each year, and supports 1.4 million jobs. As part of ongoing environmental efforts at the Port, the Port of Long Beach launched a Clean Air Action Plan that has reduced diesel air emissions by 85 percent since 2005. However, the ability for California to handle current and future trade volumes depends on regional and statewide transportation systems that operate efficiently, safely, and competitively.

Long Beach is supportive of developing a sustainable fund in the State to improve trade corridors with a focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, climate change adaptations and other environmental benefits. These types of State investments are incredibly important to sustaining healthy residential neighborhoods along goods movement corridors such as the I-710.

California’s transportation infrastructure is in desperate need of repair and AB 1780 provides a sensible solution to funding eligible, high priority freight projects.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports AB 1780.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O’Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District