Fact Sheet

Port Community Grants Program: Improving Community Health and Livability

Port of LONG BEACH
THE PORT OF CHOICE

Overview

The Port of Long Beach Community Grants Program invests in initiatives that lessen the impacts of port operations on the surrounding area.

The grants help address the effects on air and water quality, traffic, and noise on local schools, health-care centers, senior facilities and the wider community.

During the program's 12-15 year lifespan, $46.4 million will be allocated in three specific categories: Community Health, Facility Improvements and Community Infrastructure. Future development projects could provide additional grant funds at the Harbor Commission's discretion.

The investments build upon the $17.4 million the Port has awarded since 2009 under its previous Mitigation Grants Program. Together with the new funding, the total is almost $65 million. No other U.S. seaport has voluntarily committed as much funding for community-based environmental mitigation.

Background

In March 2017 the Board of Harbor Commissioners approved a framework to provide grant funding for projects to help offset the impact of Port operations. The first grants were awarded later that year.

These grants help the Port address operational impacts in a comprehensive, far-reaching manner, seeking to fund programs that do the greatest amount of good for the greatest number of residents.

Funding Criteria

The Port has established criteria for eligible projects and programs and the types of organizations and facilities that can apply. All funding is subject to final Board approval.

Two geographic zones help determine the most eligible grant recipients. While the entire city of Long Beach is eligible for grant funding, there is a priority zone covering downtown and extending north along the Interstate 710 corridor. Both zones also include parts of Wilmington, Carson, Compton and Paramount.

In addition, the Port prioritizes expenditures that benefit sensitive populations, including children, pregnant women, senior citizens, the chronically ill and those with respiratory and cardiopulmonary disorders and diseases.

Community Health

The Community Health Program supports health projects and services designed to reduce the risks associated with asthma and other respiratory and/or cardiopulmonary ailments. These services may include screening and diagnosis, case management, education, training community health workers or medical personnel, and outreach.

Government agencies, nonprofits providing health services or licensed health providers may apply.

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Facility Improvements

The Facility Improvements Program funds projects at facilities that reduce impacts associated with port-related air pollution, noise pollution and/or greenhouse gas emissions. Eligible projects include:

- Air filtration
- Window/door replacement and sealing
- Insulation
- Boiler/chiller replacement
- Energy-efficient lighting
- Solar power generation
- Solar heating
- Electric fleet vehicles
- Trees and landscaping
- Noise barriers

Facilities serving the sensitive populations defined by the Port may apply.

Community Infrastructure

Community Infrastructure Program funding is awarded to capital projects that reduce port-related impacts on air and water quality, traffic and noise. These projects include:

- Parks and open space
- Bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure
- Water quality and stormwater
- Sound walls and noise barriers

Applicants eligible for funding are nonprofit organizations and government agencies.

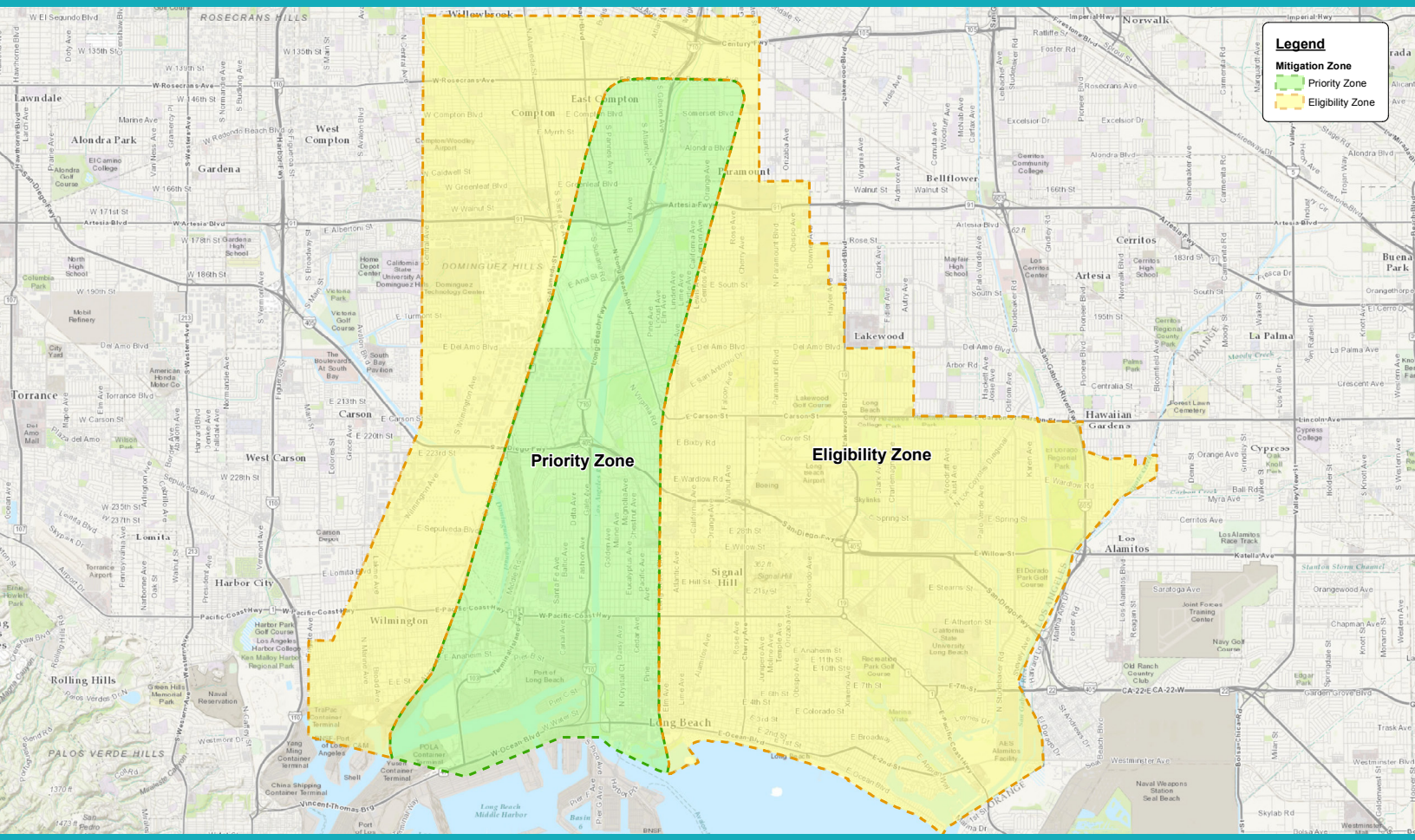
Public Input

In developing the framework for the grant program, the Port worked extensively with the State Lands Commission to ensure consistency with state law.

Port officials met with schools, health-care facilities, community groups, labor and elected officials to gather input. Public outreach meetings informed writing program guidelines.

A Community Grants Advisory Committee appointed by the mayor of Long Beach helps select projects for funding. Before any grants are awarded, the Port conducts a thorough staff review. Recommended applications go to the Board of Harbor Commissioners for final approval.

Applications

Go to ***www.polb.com/grants*** for more information on applicant workshops, applications and deadlines.

Priority Funding Zone: *While the entire city of Long Beach is eligible for grant funding, there is a priority zone covering downtown and extending north along the Interstate 710 corridor.*