THE PORT OF LOS ANGELES
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Karen Bass | *Mayor, City of Los Angeles*

Board of Harbor Commissioners: Beatrice C. Hsu, *President*; Yolanda M. De La Torre, *Vice President*; Mickey Chavez, *Commissioner*; Sheila M. Lewis | MBA, *Commissioner*; I. Lee Williams, *Commissioner*

Eugene D. Seroka | *Executive Director*

November 9, 2026

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ENTERED
Office of Chief Counsel
November 10, 2026
Part of
Public Record

VIA E-FILING

Chief of Case Administration
Office of Chief Counsel
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

To the Chief of Case Administration:

SUBJECT: Alameda Belt Line—Operation Exemption—Board of Harbor Commissioners of the City of Los Angeles – Port of Los Angeles, Board of Harbor Commissioners (Long Beach), Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority, and Union Pacific Railroad Company (STB Docket No. FD 36946)

The City of Los Angeles - Port of Los Angeles (POLA) provides this letter in response to the Surface Transportation Board (Board) decision issued on October 15, 2026 in Docket No. FD 36946. In that order, the Board postponed the effective date of the exemption requested by Alameda Belt Line (ABL) until the Board issues a further order. POLA respectfully submits this letter to assist the Board by summarizing the City of Los Angeles' approval process for the Operating Agreement between ABL and POLA (the "Agreement") and requests that the Board lift the postponement, retain the exemption's scheduled effective date of October 16, 2026, and permit ABL to begin performance of its contractual obligations upon the effective date of the Agreement.

The Agreement will allow ABL to undertake railroad common carrier switching operations over POLA-owned track within the Port of Los Angeles. The Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioners, which is responsible for the management and operation of the Port of Los Angeles, voted to approve the contract on October 8, 2026. The Agreement is scheduled for review by the Los Angeles City Council's Trade, Travel, and Tourism Committee on November 13, 2026, and is anticipated to be presented for approval by the full City Council on November 18, 2026.

The Agreement is the result of an extensive, in-depth procurement process by POLA, on behalf of the City of Los Angeles, in conjunction with the City of Long Beach, which was done in anticipation of the impending expiration of the operating agreements of Pacific Harbor Line (PHL) with POLB and POLA on December 31, 2026, per the agreements' terms.

POLA and POLB have been planning and working toward a two-step transition with terminal maintenance and train control operations (dispatching) on December 2, 2026, and switching operations on January 1, 2027. Any delay in implementation of the Agreement between ABL and POLA pending the effectiveness of the exemption has real consequences for real people: the former employees of PHL who are anticipated to transition their employment to ABL, and who need uninterrupted employment and income. Any disruption in the Agreement timeline creates uncertainty in bringing this workforce on board while such disruption exists.

In order to facilitate a smooth transition between operators, POLA respectfully requests that the Board lift its postponement of the effective date of ABL's exemption in order to allow ABL to perform under the terms of the Agreement. POLA will provide the Board with updates as the Agreement progresses through the City Council approval process.

Sincerely,



EUGENE D. SEROKA
Executive Director

EDS/ila

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 10th day of November 2026, I caused the foregoing letter to be served on all parties of record in this proceeding.

Dated: November 10, 2026

By: */s/ Allison Ishihara Fultz*

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