January 19, 2018

Board of Harbor Commissioners  
Port of Long Beach  
4807 Airport Plaza Drive  
Long Beach, CA 90815

Re: Pier B Final Environmental Impact Report

To Long Beach Harbor Commissioners:

On behalf of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce (Chamber), I am writing to express our conceptual support for the proposed Pier B Rail yard project. This project will strengthen the Port of Long Beach’s economic competitiveness and support environmental goals.

Approval of this project is consistent with the Chamber’s support for improving air quality and reducing congestion while modernizing our ports and trade corridors. If approved, the Pier B Rail yard project will provide the additional track space necessary to connect smaller train segments from container cargo terminals, allowing the Port to enhance the use of on-dock rail. Moving more cargo by on-dock rail reduces the number of trucks on the road, easing traffic and curtailing emissions.

As you consider the project in front of you today, I would like to emphasize the need for continuing dialogue with impacted stakeholders. The Chamber has been a long-time supporter of the BNSF Railway’s Southern California International Gateway (SCIG). SCIG is important to the San Pedro Bay ports and will eliminate millions of truck miles from local freeways. We understand there may be a conflict with rail access serving Pier B and SCIG. We encourage the Port to resolve any conflict with SCIG prior to approving the FEIR for Pier B.

The Port of Long Beach is a critical component of the economic vitality of our region. We believe this project to be key in meeting the near-term goal of moving 35 percent of containers via on-dock rail and reaching an eventual goal of 50 percent. As part of our support, I urge you to address the above issue while moving the project forward.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Gary Toebben  
President & CEO