

11 June, 2026

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Support for Motion (26-0864) to Strengthen Emergency Preparedness and Local Maritime Response Capacity at the Port of Los Angeles

Dear Council President and Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council:

On behalf of Pacific Maritime Group (PMG), I am writing in strong support of Councilmember Tim McOsker's motion (directing the Port of Los Angeles and relevant City agencies to evaluate opportunities to strengthen emergency preparedness and response capabilities by incorporating qualified local maritime service providers and workforce resources into emergency planning and response frameworks.

As a Los Angeles Harbor-based maritime services company, PMG has decades of firsthand experience supporting vessel operations, emergency response efforts, marine logistics, and waterfront operations throughout the San Pedro Bay port complex. We recognize that effective emergency response depends not only on public agencies, but also on the availability of experienced local maritime operators, specialized equipment, and a trained workforce capable of immediate deployment when incidents occur.

The November 2025 ONE Henry Hudson vessel fire underscored the importance of coordinated action among public safety agencies, marine service providers, terminal operators, labor, and other waterfront stakeholders. The incident demonstrated that local knowledge, operational familiarity with harbor conditions, and the ability to rapidly mobilize qualified personnel and equipment are critical components of a successful response.

We particularly support the motion's focus on evaluating and enhancing:

- Pre-incident qualification programs for maritime emergency response providers;
- Contracting and procurement frameworks that allow for rapid activation of qualified local resources;
- Availability of marine support services, including towing, salvage, firefighting support, environmental response, heavy equipment operations, and other specialized waterfront capabilities;
- Workforce readiness and training programs that leverage the expertise of the local maritime workforce; and
- Strategies to improve overall resilience of the Port and regional supply chain during emergency events.

Pacific Maritime Group believes that the Port of Los Angeles is best served when emergency preparedness planning fully recognizes the value of maintaining a strong local maritime services ecosystem. Harbor-based companies and workers possess institutional knowledge, operational experience, and established relationships that can significantly enhance response effectiveness while reducing mobilization times during critical incidents.



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As the nation's busiest container port and a vital gateway for international commerce, the Port of Los Angeles must continue investing in preparedness measures that protect public safety, safeguard the environment, and ensure continuity of operations. This motion represents an important step toward achieving those objectives while strengthening the partnership between public agencies and the maritime industry.

We appreciate Councilmember McOsker's leadership on this issue and respectfully urge the City Council to support and advance this motion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Trent Newlon', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Trent Newlon
Sales Director
Pacific Maritime Group