



**Office of the Mayor  
City of Los Angeles**

**ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA**

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**MAYOR VILLARAIGOSA DEMANDS FAIR SHARE OF FUNDS FOR LA  
AND LONG BEACH PORTS**

*State panel to decide fate of \$2 billion in transportation bond funds*

LOS ANGELES – As state officials ready to decide the fate of \$2 billion in transportation bond funds, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa urged the California Transportation Commission (CTC) to allocate the money consistent with Southern California's economic contributions, needs and absorbed environmental impacts of port trade.

In a letter to Secretary Dale Bonner of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency and Chairman James Ghielmetti of the CTC, Mayor Villaraigosa noted that Southern California's ports handled \$256 billion of cargo in 2005, created 890,000 jobs in the state and 3.3 million jobs across the country, and generated over \$6.7 billion in state and local tax revenue. The Mayor said that this contribution demands a much higher allocation of bond funds than the CTC staff recommended.

"Any investment of state resources should recognize the significance of trade volume moving through this region," Mayor Villaraigosa wrote. "Any allocation that fails to recognize this special burden is unacceptable, and demonstrates a lack of commitment to the millions of voters in Southern California who overwhelmingly supported Proposition 1B."

The CTC is set to meet today to decide how to spend \$2 billion of Proposition 1B funds targeted for ports and goods movement. In 2006, voters passed this measure to boost investment in transportation and trade infrastructure throughout the state. LA residents provided significant backing for the proposition, driving the state's decisive support for the increased funding.

In February of this year, the CTC provided \$780 million to LA to complete the carpool lane on the northbound 405 freeway after a vigorous lobbying effort by Mayor Villaraigosa and other Southern California leaders.

A copy of Mayor Villaraigosa's letter is attached.

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