

DOCKETED

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Comment Received From: San Francisco Bay Area Water Emergency Transportation Authority

Submitted On: 9/30/2021

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Need for shoreside charging infrastructure to support zero emission marine vessels

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

September 30, 2021

Patrick Brecht
Investment Plan Project Manager
California Energy Commission

Submitted via email Patrick.Brecht@energy.ca.gov

Re: Clean Transportation Program's 2021-2023 Investment Plan Update - Need for shoreside charging infrastructure to support zero emission marine vessels

Dear Mr. Brecht:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on California Energy Commission's (CEC) Clean Transportation Program's 2021-2023 Investment Plan Update. The San Francisco Bay Area Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA) urges CEC to provide specific funding for port zero emission charging infrastructure, which has the dual benefit of supporting the transition of heavy-duty trucks and marine vessels to zero emission.

WETA is a regional public transit agency tasked with operating and expanding ferry service on the San Francisco Bay and with coordinating the water transit response to regional emergencies. Under the San Francisco Bay Ferry brand, WETA carries over three million passengers annually utilizing a fleet of 15 high speed passenger-only ferry vessels. San Francisco Bay Ferry currently serves the cities of Alameda, Oakland, Richmond, San Francisco, South San Francisco and Vallejo.

Since the agency's inception, WETA has been at the forefront of environmental innovation and is committed to using the best available technologies on all of its vessels. Over the last year, in response to the pressing environmental need and in response to the California Air Resource Board's (CARB) Proposed Commercial Harbor Craft Regulations, WETA has worked to develop a plan to start transitioning our fleet to zero emission technology. Our zero emission fleet plan would transition 50% of our fleet to zero emissions, focusing first on our short and medium length routes.

As a result of receiving a California Energy Commission's (CEC) Clean Transportation Program Blueprints for Medium- and Heavy Duty Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure grant earlier this year, WETA is currently conducting a study to understand the costs and requirements for implementation of zero emission energy infrastructure to support the transition of WETA's ferry fleet to zero-emissions. While we do not have firm estimates for the cost of shoreside charging infrastructure, preliminary estimates indicate it will likely be in the range of over \$100 million to implement. Final results should be available later this year or early 2022 and will inform our zero-emission fleet plan.

Adequate funding for a zero-emission marine segment is critical to our agency's ability to implement the transition of our fleet to zero emission technology and to help achieve the state of California's greenhouse gas emission reduction targets. We urge you to consider prioritizing funds for port zero emission charging infrastructure

Thank you for your consideration. We would be pleased to answer any questions or provide further information.

Sincerely,



Seamus Murphy
Executive Director