

**DRAFT****RESOLUTION 20xx-xxx****RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE CONTINUANCE  
OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY RELATING TO THE ON-  
GOING TIJUANA RIVER VALLEY  
TRANSBOUNDARY POLLUTION CRISIS**

**WHEREAS**, the San Diego Unified Port District (District) is a public corporation created by the legislature in 1962 pursuant to Harbors and Navigation Code Appendix 1 (Port Act); and

**WHEREAS**, on April 3, 2024, by Resolution No. 2024-0085, the Board of Port Commissioners (BPC) adopted a proclamation of a local emergency relating to the on-going Tijuana River Valley transboundary pollution crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, BPC Policy No. 777, dated June 23, 2020, (Clerk's Document #71570), details the District's Emergency Management policy, which requires the BPC review the need for the continuation of the local emergency at least every 60 days until the local emergency is terminated; and

**WHEREAS**, since the adoption of the initial Emergency Proclamation, there have been multiple continuances of the local emergency by the BPC due to the continued and ongoing presence of transboundary flows and beach closures that are beyond the control of local resources, requiring substantial efforts and resources of the federal and state government; and

**WHEREAS**, the most recent continuance occurred on November 4, 2025, by Resolution No. 2025-074, at which time the BPC continued the proclamation to January 3, 2026;

**WHEREAS**, this proclamation will expire unless continued by this action; and

**WHEREAS**, another continuance of the proclamation of a local emergency is needed due to the continued on-going pollution and contamination from transboundary flows within the Tijuana River Valley watershed and nearby coastline on both the U.S. and Mexico sides of the border; and

**WHEREAS**, the BPC and the District maintain its position to advocate for additional funding to complete the Comprehensive Infrastructure Solution, involving Tijuana River diversion projects and expanding the treatment capacity at the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant (SBIWTP) operated and managed by the U.S. International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) once critical repairs are completed; and

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**WHEREAS**, these projects are essential to modernize the wastewater treatment system on both sides of the border and reopen beaches along the south San Diego County shoreline from the Tijuana Slough to Border Field State Park which have now been closed every day for over 1,200 days; and

**WHEREAS**, air quality in the Tijuana River Valley has also been severely impacted and has been the focus of various agencies and local groups; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of San Diego and the San Diego Air Pollution Control District (APCD) are continuing their efforts to distribute air purifiers to residents in the affected communities; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition, up-to-date information on air quality in the Tijuana River Valley is also publicly available through the hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) monitoring dashboard on APCD's website; and

**WHEREAS**, while the local communities need relief from the odors and poor air quality in the short term, the Comprehensive Infrastructure Solution is needed to address the current emergency and provide a long-term solution to both air and water quality impairments; and

**WHEREAS**, staff recommends adopting a resolution proclaiming the continuance of the local emergency for an additional 60 days, until February 7, 2026, at the December 9, 2025 Board meeting.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED** by the Board of Port Commissioners (BPC) that the local emergency declared by the BPC on November 4, 2025, by Resolution No. 2025-075 continues and is extended based on the continuous flow of untreated sewage and pollutants in the Tijuana River Valley and coastal waters.

**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that during the existence of said local emergency, the powers, functions, and duties of the emergency organization of this District shall be those prescribed by BPC Policy No. 777, state law, ordinances and resolutions of the District.

**BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that this emergency proclamation shall continue to and expire on February 7, 2026, which is 60 days from the date of this proclamation, unless confirmed and extended by the BPC prior to the expiration date.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:  
GENERAL COUNSEL

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By: Assistant/Deputy General Counsel

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Port Commissioners of the San Diego Unified Port District, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of December 2025, by the following vote: