

New nonprofit Harbor Community Benefit Foundation launches,
seeks Executive Director to oversee millions of dollars in
community benefits projects in Los Angeles's near-port
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A historic agreement between the Port of Los Angeles and various stakeholders has resulted in the founding of a new nonprofit organization, the [Harbor Community Benefit Foundation](#). HCBF's mission is "to carry out mitigation and other public benefit projects that assess, protect, and improve health, quality of life, and the natural environment, with a focus on the near-port communities of San Pedro and Wilmington, California." The [Port](#), a major hub of international commerce for the entire western United States, [has disproportionately impacted these near-port communities](#) with pollution and other impacts associated with operations and goods movement. The Port has been [improving its environmental record](#) as it acknowledges these impacts, and the nonprofit's focus on public benefits to these communities reflects a serious commitment to address these problems. I'm fortunate to be the HCBF's first board Chair.

The organization is [searching for its first executive director](#) (we are relying on very capable interim staff right now). Please feel free to distribute [this job posting](#) far and wide!

The HCBF will be administering a fund, the Port Community Mitigation Trust Fund, to implement and fund community benefits projects; the trust fund is expected to reach the tens of millions of dollars, and the first grant, of \$6 million to fund an [air filtration project in San Pedro and Wilmington schools](#), has already been authorized. The genesis of the fund and the nonprofit was a [2008 agreement](#) that resulted in the settlement of a lawsuit against the Port, called the TraPac settlement. The nonprofit also will likely pursue other funding, apart from the trust fund, to support its projects.

I'm excited about the opportunity to move forward on efforts to improve health and quality of life in these near-port communities. My fellow [board members](#) and I are anticipating that the HCBF will improve health and quality of life significantly in our near-Port communities and serve as a model for other community-benefits nonprofits.