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Biden-Harris Administration Announces Nearly \$150 Million in Grants to Help Reduce Truck Air Pollution Near America's Ports

Wednesday, April 24, 2024

Biden-Harris Administration Announces Nearly \$150 Million in Grants to Help Reduce Truck Air Pollution Near America's Ports

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration is announcing \$148 million in grants to 11 states and Puerto Rico under the first round of a new \$400 million program to improve air quality and reduce pollution for truck drivers, port workers and families that live in communities surrounding ports. The Reduction of Truck Emissions at Port Facilities Grant Program, which was created by the President's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), invests in port electrification and efficiency improvements. This program aims to reduce pollution from idling trucks at our nation's ports while modernizing infrastructure and strengthening supply chains.

"When truckers spend hours idling at ports, it's bad for drivers, bad for supply chains, and bad for nearby communities that feel the brunt of more polluted air," said **U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg**. "The investments we are announcing today will save truck drivers time and money and help ports reduce congestion and emissions, while making the air more breathable for workers and communities."

"The projects funded under this program will improve the quality of life for workers and families impacted by pollution from idling trucks while building a clean-energy economy that combats climate change and makes our communities more resilient," said **Federal Highway Administrator Shailen Bhatt**. "Port-related trade is good for the economy — which is why we are pleased to announce this investment from President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law that will make a real difference for people who live and work near ports."

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In this first round of [grant awards](#), FHWA has funded 16 projects that reduce pollution in communities adjacent to ports, which disproportionately bear the negative environmental impacts of idling trucks. Specific truck emissions reductions implemented include replacing diesel-powered trucks serving ports with zero or low emissions electric or alternative fuel-powered trucks, constructing electric vehicle charging infrastructure, employing port roadway access improvements, and studying technology enhancements to reduce truck emissions. For example:

- **California** is receiving \$49.7 million for port improvements. The Ports of Long Beach, Oakland and Los Angeles will receive funding to replace diesel- and gas-powered trucks and shuttle buses with zero-emission technologies, electric trucks and EV chargers. Texas is receiving \$26.9 million for improvements to the Port of Houston, including 30 new zero-emission, short-haul trucks and portable electric chargers for battery electric vehicle trucks to make zero-emission technology accessible and more affordable to owners and operators of small trucking fleets. It will also pay for the installation of new automated terminal operating systems to reduce truck idling times.
- **Georgia** is receiving \$15.3 million toward improvements at the Port of Savannah, including to build large-scale charging project near the port, replace diesel-powered trucks, and expand the use of low-emission and zero-emission equipment.
- **Florida** is receiving \$10 million for Talleyrand Marine Terminal in Jacksonville and the Port Everglades Terminal in Fort Lauderdale to replace diesel-powered trucks, while terminal improvements at the Seaboard Port of Miami will reduce truck idling time at the gates.
- **Louisiana** is receiving \$7.1 million to purchase 14 new all-electric heavy-duty terminal trucks and five light-duty pickup trucks to replace diesel vehicles currently in use. Funding also will be used to upgrade electrical infrastructure and evaluate new emissions-reducing equipment.
- **New Jersey** is receiving \$2.2 million to replace 20 diesel trucks with more efficient, environmentally friendly vehicles that run on clean, low-emitting propane fuel.

President Biden's Investing in America agenda is growing the American economy from the bottom up and middle-out — from rebuilding our nation's infrastructure, to creating a manufacturing and innovation boom powered by good-paying jobs that don't require a four-year degree, to

building a clean-energy economy that will combat climate change and make our communities more resilient.

The Reduction of Truck Emissions at Port Facilities Grant Program is part of the [Justice40 Initiative](#), which advances President Biden’s commitment to environmental justice by aiming to ensure that 40 percent of the overall benefits of certain Federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized, underserved, and overburdened by pollution.

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