

AGENDA REPORT

Resolution: Authorization for Travel Expenditures Relating to Trade Delegation to China for the Purpose of Promoting Oakland-Based Exports and Establishing Relationship with China Port and Commerce Authorities. **(Board)**

MEETING DATE: 7/11/2019

SUBMITTED BY: Danny Wan, Port Attorney

APPROVED BY: Danny Wan, Port Attorney

SUMMARY

The Bay Area Council is supporting and organizing an Oakland trade delegation to China for the purpose of promoting exports from Oakland-based exporters and of building relationship between the Port of Oakland and port authorities in China. The itinerary from July 14 to July 20, 2019 includes meetings with Port officials in China, interaction with Chinese trade and commerce representatives and attendance at import exposition. The delegation will include Oakland-based exporters and businesses, City of Oakland representatives and Port representatives. The Board President has appointed two Port Commissioners and one Port staff to be part of the delegation. City of Oakland officials and staff will join the delegation to support Oakland-based exporters and the Port's presentation to Chinese Port, as well as to attend export business promotion events. Port representatives will also join City officials for certain cultural and educational exchanges.

Exports to China represent a significant portion of the cargo moving through the Port of Oakland. Promotion of export trade volume and establishing relationships with Chinese Port authorities open opportunities to grow, enhance and maintain Port export volumes. Moreover, interagency cooperation between the Port and City of Oakland (of which the Port is a department) to jointly promote Oakland-based exporters enhances not only Port business but economic development of the City and the Port's local business impact areas.

RECOMMENDATION

It is within the Port's fundamental mission to promote trade. The trade delegation supports the Port's mission. It is recommended that Board approves expenditures for travel, accommodation and per diem expenses of Port representatives and of City representatives (to the extent that such expenses promotes City-Port interagency purposes).