



# TAKING A TOLL:

The High Cost of Health,  
Environmental, and Worker Impacts of  
the Oakland Port Trucking System

Advanced Copy  
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By **EBASE** and Pacific Institute  
For the **Coalition for Clean & Safe Ports**

# Teleconference Agenda

## 1. Introduction

Valerie Lapin, Coalition for Clean & Safe Ports

## 2. Report Findings

Jennifer Lin, Easy Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy (EBASE)

Swati Prakash, Pacific Institute

## 3. Neighborhood Impact

Athena Applon, West Oakland Resident

## 4. Port Driver Impact

Muhammad Asif, Port Truck Driver



# Background & Introduction

- Port of Oakland is the nation's **5<sup>th</sup> largest container port**
- Health impacts of diesel emissions from freight transportation drain at least **\$34 billion a year** in California.
- Costs are **concentrated in the logistics workforce** and in neighborhoods closest to the ports, freeways, railyards, and distribution centers
- Freight transportation trucks generate approximately **half** of all of California's diesel emissions.

# The Cost of the Regional Health Crisis

- **\$153 million** economic ripple effects of diesel pollution annually
- Premature deaths, hospitalizations, lost work and sick days due to toxic diesel emissions
- Equivalent to the cost of providing **healthcare for 75,000 uninsured children each year**

# The Cost of the Regional Health Crisis

**Figure 1: Annual Economic Valuation of Health Impacts of Statewide Goods Movement and San Francisco Air Basin Port Trucks**

	Statewide, All Goods Movement Sources (# of cases, 2005)	San Francisco Air Basin Port Trucks (# of cases, 2005)	Economic Value Per Case (in 2007 dollars) <sup>15</sup>	San Francisco Air Basin Port Trucks (in 2007 dollars)
Premature Deaths	3,940	18	\$8,387,106	\$151,000,000
Hospital Admissions (respiratory)	2,000	9	\$36,096	\$331,000
Hospital Admissions (cardiovascular)	830	4	\$43,528	\$166,000
Asthma and Other Lower Respiratory Symptoms	62,000	284	\$20	\$6,000
Acute Bronchitis	5,100	23	\$448	\$10,000
Work Loss Days	360,000	1,650	\$191	\$320,000
Minor Restricted Activity Days	3,900,000	17,875	\$64	\$1,100,000
School Absence Days	1,100,000	5,042	\$93	\$471,000
<b>Total Cost</b>				<b>\$153,000,000</b>

Source: Authors' analysis of CARB data. Subtotals by health impact may not add up to total cost due to rounding. See Appendix B for full description of methodology.



# Snapshot of Local Impacts: West Oakland Health Risk Assessment

- There is **3 times** as much diesel particulate matter (PM) in West Oakland than in the San Francisco Bay Area as a whole.
- **71% of the cancer risk** from diesel PM is due to heavy-duty trucks
- Port trucks are estimated to create a **risk of 48 excess cancers** per one million residents

# Neighborhood Impacts of Trucks Burden Residents

- **Lack of truck-supporting facilities** (parking, food, fuel, restrooms) on or adjacent to Port property send trucks into local neighborhoods
- Trucks (and related businesses) in **residential neighborhoods** result in:
  - ✗ Noise
  - ✗ Vibration
  - ✗ Blight
  - ✗ Safety Hazards

# Neighborhood Impacts of Trucks Burden Residents

- Noise linked to **health consequences**
  - ✗ Increased risk of heart attack
  - ✗ Reduced school performance
  - ✗ Disrupted sleep
- Reduced visibility and shadows cause **safety hazards** that discourage walking and biking
  - increases risk of being overweight
- Cumulative environmental stressors connected to **reduced birthweight** and **reduced life expectancy**

# Public Costs of Driving without a Safety-net

- The majority of Port truck drivers are **not employee drivers**
- Median hourly wage is **\$10.69 / hour**
- **62% of drivers** do *not* have health insurance
- The reliance of these drivers & their families on public or charity healthcare adds up to **\$4.5 million / year.**

# Driving without a Safety-net

- Truck drivers have the **highest on-the-job fatality rates** in the country
- Drivers are exposed to **very high levels of diesel exhaust** inside their cabs
- **No workplace safety-net measures** such as safety and health trainings, worker's comp
- Average wages do not cover the cost of truck maintenance and upgrades → **increase in environmental & safety risks created by older trucks**

# RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) Create a **uniform and comprehensive set of standards** to minimize environmental, neighborhood, and worker impacts and to maximize local benefits and accountability by any company that does business with the Port of Oakland.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2) **Require and enforce** adherence to these standards among port trucking companies by shifting port trucking to a **concession model with employee status**

# Asthma Clinic: Tuesday, Feb 10

## Free Asthma Screening

3pm

Port of Oakland

530 Water Street, Oakland

(between Clay and Washington)

