Port of San Diego Chairman Rafael Castellanos Praises Truck Ordinance

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Port of San Diego Chairman Rafael Castellanos Friday voiced support for a proposed ordinance that could improve air quality in Barrio Logan.

The San Diego City Council’s Environment Committee unanimously voted Thursday to advance the measure — crafted with input from the Environmental Health Coalition — that would mandate large trucks use Harbor Drive to pass through Barrio Logan in order to access freeways and enforce penalties for route violations.

Routing diesel trucks away from schools, senior living centers and other residential zones would improve neighborhood quality of life, according to the EHC.

Castellanos praised the proposal, particularly as the port redevelops the Tenth Avenue Marine Terminal.

“We support the designated truck route — it’s straightforward and common sense,” he said.

The EHC, which has spent 38 years advocating for social and environmental equality in low-income communities of color, worked with residents to monitor 20 hours of air quality and truck activity along Boston Avenue between 28th Street and 32nd Street, according to spokeswoman Mia Bolton. A two-hour period yielded 59 industrial trucks, she said.

City staff will review the proposed ordinance before its discussed by the full City Council.