



The Maryland Port Administration

PRESS RELEASE

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PORT OF BALTIMORE ENCOURAGES TRUCK OWNERS TO JOIN ‘DOLLARS FOR DRAYS’ TO REPLACE OLDER VEHICLES

Program Sets Earth Day Goal To Replace 20 Older Trucks With Newer, Cleaner Models

(BALTIMORE, MD) -- The Helen Delich Bentley Port of Baltimore’s Dray Truck Replacement Program, which for years has contributed to cleaning the air around the Port through replacement of older truck models, has set a goal to replace 20 existing dray trucks with newer and cleaner models by Earth Day, April 22, 2021. Dray trucks are trucks that carry containers to and from the Port of Baltimore.

“The Dray Truck Replacement Program has been a significant contributor to reducing pollutants and cleaning the air around the Port of Baltimore,” said Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Port Administration (MDOT MPA) Executive Director William P. Doyle. “We strongly urge truck owners to take advantage of this unique opportunity that will help them purchase a newer, cleaner truck.”

The program – dubbed “Dollars For Drays” – helps truck owners pay for new trucks and remove older diesel models from service. Qualifying truck owner-operators and fleet owners are offered a rebate of 50% (up to a maximum of \$30,000) toward the cost of a newer, cleaner truck. Grant funding comes from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Diesel Emissions Reduction Act Program, and from Maryland’s Volkswagen mitigation agreement in coordination with the Maryland Department of the Environment.

“Working with our partners at the state and federal level, MDOT MPA’s dray truck replacement program is an important element of the Port of Baltimore’s environmental stewardship,” said MDOT Secretary Greg Slater. “Dray truck replacement, our creative dredge reuse initiatives, our continued work at Masonville Cove and other programs show how MDOT MPA is working hard to be environmentally responsible while creating jobs and growing Maryland’s economy.”

Since 2012, a total of 244 trucks have been replaced through the Dollars for Drays program. In addition to dray trucks, the Port’s Diesel Equipment Upgrade Program has replaced, repowered or retrofitted a variety of cargo-handling equipment, locomotive engines and marine engines. Overall, the Port’s diesel emission reduction projects have helped lessen air pollution emissions at the Port by more than 5,100 tons.

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Governor Larry Hogan | MDOT Secretary Gregory Slater | MDOT MPA Executive Director William P. Doyle

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“Dollars for Drays continues to offer significant economic benefits to local business owners while improving air quality in and around port communities,” said Louis Campion, president and CEO of Maryland Motor Truck Association.

Dray truck owners with older trucks are encouraged to learn more about the Dollars for Drays program. Applying is easy and most applications can be processed in approximately two weeks or less. For more information, please visit www.dieselupgrades.org/drayage-truck-frequently-asked-questions or email info@dieselupgrades.org

The program has been a huge success with the drivers who participate.

“The Baltimore dray program is a phenomenal program,” said Dauda Mansaray, dray truck driver at the Port. “I have the greatest honor to be part of this program. I encourage any driver out there to look in this program. It is really worth it.”

The Port of Baltimore generates about 15,300 direct jobs, with nearly 140,000 jobs overall linked to Port activities. The Port ranks first among the nation’s ports for volume of autos and light trucks, roll on/roll off heavy farm and construction machinery, and imported gypsum. It ranks 11th among major U.S. ports for foreign cargo and 10th for total foreign cargo value.

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