

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Balboa Island Ferry, SCAQMD, and CARB Finalize Agreements to Launch Historic Zero-Emission Ferry Electrification Project.

**NEWPORT BEACH, Calif., Dec. 31, 2025** - The Balboa Island Ferry, South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD), and California Air Resources Board (CARB) announced today the execution of contracts marking the official start of a landmark project to transition the Ferry's entire fleet to 100% zero-emission electric vessels.

This initiative represents the first full-fleet ferry electrification project of its kind in California and is funded through CARB's SHIFT program and California Climate Investments (CCI), administered by South Coast AQMD.

Under the executed agreements, Balboa Island Ferry will replace all three of its existing Tier 2 diesel-powered vessels with new battery-electric ferries and install shoreside charging infrastructure that will support daily operation. The project is designed to eliminate tailpipe emissions, improve local air quality, and advance statewide clean transportation goals with a focus on delivering community benefits.

**Seymour Beek, President of the Balboa Island Ferry**, said: "This partnership marks a transformative moment in the Ferry's 100-plus-year history. The execution of these agreements with CARB and South Coast AQMD sets the stage for a new era of clean, quiet, and sustainable ferry service for residents and visitors alike."

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### **About California Air Resources Board (CARB) and the Sustainable Heavy-Duty Initiatives for Future Technology (SHIFT) Program:**

This project is part of Sustainable Heavy-Duty Initiatives for Future Technology (SHIFT), a program administered by the California Air Resources board and funded through California Climate Investments.

CARB's mission is to promote and protect public health, welfare, and ecological resources through effective reduction of air pollutants while recognizing and considering effects on the economy. CARB is the lead agency for climate change programs and oversees all air pollution control efforts in California to attain and maintain health-based air quality standards.

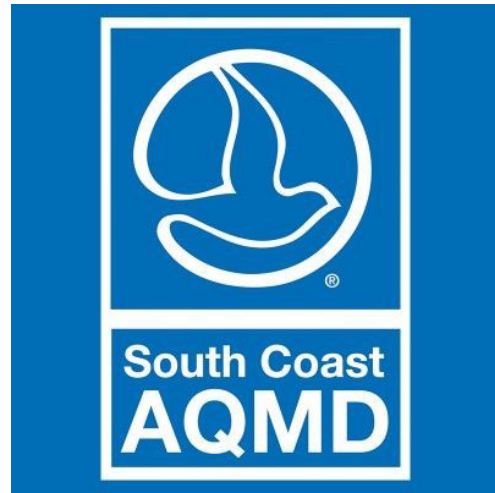
SHIFT is an incentive program administered by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) supporting the development and demonstration of advanced, low- and zero-emission technologies for heavy-duty vehicles, off-road equipment, and goods movement. Formerly known as Advanced Technology Demonstration and Pilot Projects, SHIFT investments help accelerate the transition of emerging technologies from pre-commercial demonstration to commercial deployment by supporting early deployments and at-scale testing in real-world use. As a part of CARB's Clean Transportation Incentives, SHIFT projects advance innovative on- and off-road solutions that reduce air pollution, improve public health and support California's climate and air quality goals.

**About California Climate Investments (CCI)** California Climate Investments uses billions of Cap-and-Invest dollars to fund projects that reduce harmful emissions, protect public health,

strengthen local economies, and support natural environments. With a strong focus on communities most impacted by pollution and limited access to resources, California Climate Investments help build a more equitable and sustainable future.

About the Balboa Island Ferry - Founded in 1919, the Balboa Island Ferry provides essential daily transportation between Balboa Island and the Balboa Peninsula in Newport Beach carrying millions of passengers and vehicles over its century of continuous service. The transition to zero-emission vessels will ensure the Ferry remains a sustainable, community-supported transportation asset for future generations.

**About South Coast AQMD** South Coast AQMD is the regulatory agency responsible for improving air quality for large areas of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov) [[aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov)], download our award-winning app, or follow us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com) [[facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)], [X](https://twitter.com) [[twitter.com](https://twitter.com)] and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com) [[instagram.com](https://www.instagram.com)].



# SHIFT

