



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
HARRISBURG

THE GOVERNOR

April 28, 2016

The Honorable Anthony J. Foxx, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**RE: TIGER Grant Letter of Support – Packer Avenue Marine Terminal Berth and Crane Rail Enhancements**

Dear Secretary Foxx:

As you consider applications for FY16 TIGER Grants, please accept our strong support for the Philadelphia Regional Port Authority's submission for funding to modernize the Packer Avenue Marine Terminal. The PRPA is an independent agency of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Commonwealth has provided substantial capital funding for port infrastructure maintenance and development.

The Delaware River Main Channel is in its final stages of being deepened to 45 feet. The Port of Philadelphia expects a substantial increase in container traffic once this project is completed. The Port is already realizing the trend of larger vessels calls. Anticipating these challenges, the Port has developed a plan with the terminal operator to modernize its facilities. This capital development is already in progress and Phase I, an enhanced gate system, has been completed. A TIGER Grant of \$17 million will ensure that the Port can complete Phase II of the terminal modernization.

Currently, the Packer Avenue Marine Terminal operates 6 diesel-powered cranes to service 374 container ships per year and 407,100 TEUs per year. TIGER funding would be used to retrofit two existing cranes with electric drives, construct the required electric infrastructure to support these cranes, and provide structural support for existing crane rails for terminal cranes. The addition of electric cranes will significantly reduce diesel emissions at the Port, providing critical air quality improvements to non-attainment area.

The total proposed Phase II project is anticipated to cost a total of \$39 million. A TIGER Grant of \$17 million will supplement \$22 million of non-federal public and private funds to fully fund this element. Once completed, Phase II of this modernization will ensure that the terminal is prepared to meet the Port's anticipated traffic and will set the stage for future development.

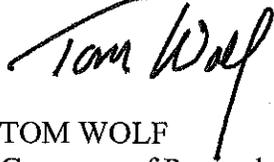
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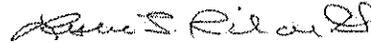
Thank you for your consideration of this application and our strong support for it. We look forward to working with you to ensure the Port of Philadelphia's continued success.

Sincerely,



TOM WOLF  
Governor of Pennsylvania

Sincerely,



LESLIE S. RICHARDS  
Secretary of Transportation