



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

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JAMES F. KENNEY
Mayor

April 27, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
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 my strong support for the Philadelphia Regional Port Authority's submission for funding to modernize the Packer Avenue Marine Terminal. The City of Philadelphia is an avid supporter of progress and developments in Philadelphia's Port district.

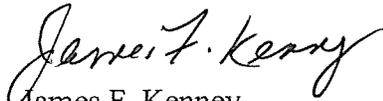
The Delaware River Main Channel is in its final stages of being deepened to 45 feet. The Port of Philadelphia expects a substantial increase in container traffic once this project is completed. The Port is already realizing the trend of larger vessels calls. Anticipating these challenges, the Port has 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 already 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 will 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 a non-attainment area.

The total proposed TIGER grant project is anticipated to cost \$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.

I am pleased to support this project and strongly recommend the Packer Avenue Marine Terminal Berth and Crane Rail Enhancements Project for federal funding through the U. S. Department of Transportation's TIGER grant program. Thank you for your consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James F. Kenney".

James F. Kenney

Mayor