



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

December 16, 2016

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to express my support for the Philadelphia Regional Port Authority's application for \$25 million in FASTLANE funds to support a wide-ranging enhancement plan at the Port of Philadelphia's busiest marine terminal that will increase container capacity, and provide additional berthing and crane capacity.

The Packer Avenue Marine Terminal Warehouse Relocation and Terminal Capacity Project is a two-phase, public-private partnership with the tenant. FASTLANE funds would be used in Phase 2 of the project.

Phase 1 of the project will include crane and wharf improvements, including acquisition of four super Post-Panamax gantry cranes; berth crane rail improvements, including a 400-ft. crane rail extension; electrification of the terminal/berth and two existing cranes; removal of three existing outdated cranes; and incorporation and development of a 40-acre site contiguous to the terminal footprint.

Phase 2 of the project will include the landside demolition and relocation of existing warehouse infrastructure to an off-terminal location. The removal of four warehouses on the terminal will increase capacity for about 64,000 containers annually. It is my understanding PRPA has identified 163,000 annual container units currently generated by Philadelphia-area shippers who utilize ports elsewhere. Removal of these warehouses will create the additional capacity to offer these shippers the logistical savings by moving via the Port of Philadelphia.

This two-phase project represents only a portion of the overall program to increase cargo capacity that will result in more family-sustaining direct jobs, greater tax revenue and significant increases for supporting maritime businesses. Additionally, by consolidating this activity at the Port of Philadelphia the project will relieve congestion on other transportation facilities by reducing the need for many additional miles of truck traffic to locations outside of the region.

Thank you, and I am grateful for your consideration of this application.

Sincerely,


James F. Kenney
Mayor