



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

May 12, 2020

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

As you consider applications for the 2020 INFRA Grant Program, please accept the Commonwealth's support for the Philadelphia Regional Port Authority's (Philaport) submission for the Southport Wharf Development and Port Expansion project. The Commonwealth, specifically the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT), works closely with Philaport to plan and implement port projects. This project is consistent with our collective capital plans for port development. If awarded an INFRA grant for the project I will work with Philaport and PennDOT to prioritize the financial plan to fund the project.

Construction of a foot multi-use berth at Southport will have significant benefits. The berth's immediate proximity to vehicles and other rolling stock and container operations provide numerous efficiencies and logistical benefits. These benefits include placing vehicles at a first point of rest in immediate proximity to the processing center, more expedient berthing operations, and reducing transfers between processing centers. Once completed, this will enable more efficient export vehicle opportunities as well as intermodal delivery via rail. The completion of the project will free up berthing capacity at the Packer Avenue Marine Terminal which is dedicated to container handling.

Successful development of this project will represent the first deepwater berth construction in Philadelphia in over 50 years. Thank you for your consideration of this application and allowing us to demonstrate our support and commitment. We look forward to working with you to ensure the Port of Philadelphia's continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Wolf".

TOM WOLF  
Governor