

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 23, 2023

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I write in support of the Philadelphia Regional Port Authority's (PhilaPort) application to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program for its Packer Avenue Marine Terminal (PAMT) Connector Bridge Project. With the help of RAISE funding, PhilaPort will build a 580-foot, two lane connector bridge between the Packer Avenue Marine Terminal and the adjacent Publicker site.

The 40-acre Publicker site supports container handling operations at the Packer Avenue Marine Terminal. Currently, these two sites—which are separated by the Walt Whitman Bridge right-of-way—are connected by just a narrow two-lane pathway. Serving as both the primary entrance to PAMT and a critical connection point to shuttle cargo between the two sites, this narrow pathway is over-utilized and often congested.

The construction of the Packer Avenue Marine Terminal Connector bridge will help PAMT keep up with growing demand at the terminal by unlocking the currently under-utilized Publicker site's capacity and enhancing the connectivity of port facilities. The project will also improve efficiency at the terminal and increase road safety within the terminal.

I ask that you give PhilaPort's application full and fair consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'John Fetterman', with a large, stylized initial 'J' and 'F'.

John Fetterman
United States Senator