

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 24, 2023

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

Rear Admiral Ann C. Phillips, US Navy, Ret.
Administrator
Maritime Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg and Administrator Phillips:

I write in support of the application submitted by the Philadelphia Regional Port Authority (PhilaPort) to the Port Infrastructure Development Program for the Packer Avenue Marine Terminal (PAMT) Connector Bridge Project. This funding would support the construction of 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.

This funding and 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 urge you to give the application full and fair consideration. Feel free to contact my office (202) 224-4254 if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,



John Fetterman
United States Senator