



GREENWICH TERMINALS LLC



August 7, 2023

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

**RE: Packer Avenue Marine Terminal Connector Bridge Project**

Dear Secretary, Buttigieg:

The Port of Philadelphia (Port) needs to continue with significant redevelopment in order to keep pace with containerization's growing demand. This letter is to communicate my strong support for the Philadelphia Regional Port Authority's (PhilaPort) Packer Avenue Marine Terminal (PAMT) Connector Bridge project. PhilaPort is applying for funding from the Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight and Highways Projects grants program (INFRA). The funds will be utilized to construct a 580-foot, two lane connector bridge between the PAMT, the Port's container terminal, and an approximately 40-acre adjacent waterfront site (Publicker). The two sites are currently split by an outfall water canal and a Walt Whitman Bridge right-of-way and connected by only a narrow 2-lane pathway. This pathway is used as the main entrance to the PAMT, as well as the connection to shuttle cargo between the two sites.

Currently, the pathway is over utilized, creating excessive congestion leading to increased truck idling times as well as traffic conflicts. Construction of a connector bridge over the water canal will add traffic flow capacity and unlock the Publicker site's capability as a viable first point of rest for inbound containers. The improvement will provide for a significant reduction in traffic risks and the need for container double handling while increasing capacities at both sites. The reduction in time of transit between the sites also has both environmental and cost competitiveness benefits.

More specifically, this project will enhance the connectivity of port facilities, increase road safety, save 100 miles of in-terminal equipment transit per average vessel call, reduce vessel turn times by approximately 1.4 hours per call, and eliminate nearly 38

hours of equipment run time per call. This project will assist the Port to better serve the market today and the indisputable future growth of container trade.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of this important project. If you have any questions, I can be contacted at 215-551-2658.

Very truly yours,



David N. Whene

President

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