

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

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JAMES F. KENNEY
Mayor

August 16, 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:

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 an economic engine for Philadelphia and the region providing over 12,000 direct jobs and producing \$94 million dollars annually in tax revenue for the city and state. The Port of Philadelphia has grown in recent years with significant investment from both public and private partners, becoming one of the fastest growing ports in the nation. On behalf of the City of Philadelphia, I'm pleased to provide this letter of support for the PAMT Connector Bridge Project, which will encourage continued growth for PhilaPort and Philadelphia's economy.

PhilaPort is requesting funding from the INFRA (the Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight & Highway Projects program). If awarded, the funding will be utilized to construct a 580-foot, two-lane connector bridge between the Packer Avenue Marine Terminal and the adjacent Publicker site.

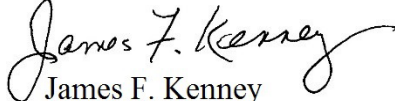
Currently, the narrow two-lane pathway connecting the two sites is over utilized, creating excessive congestion, increased truck idling times as well as traffic conflicts. Construction of a Packer Avenue Marine Terminal Connector bridge will unlock the

Publicker site's capacity as a viable first point of rest for inbound vessel, rail, and truck containers. The improvement in productivity will provide for significant reduction in container double handling and increased capacities at both sites. The reduction in time of transit has both environmental and cost competitiveness benefits for the port.

More specifically, this project will enhance the connectivity of port facilities, increase road safety within the terminal by saving 100 miles of in-terminal transit per average exchange vessel call, improve freight mobility by reducing turn time by approximately 1.4 hours per call, and improve efficiency by saving nearly 38 hours of equipment run time per call. These benefits will enable PhilaPort to not only handle the demands of today, but also position them for the expected future growth of the containerized cargo industry.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James F. Kenney". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

James F. Kenney
Mayor