

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 17, 2024

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I write today in support of the application from the Port of Philadelphia (PhilaPort) to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight & Highway Projects program (INFRA) for its Pier-96 Rehabilitation to Support Port Efficiency and Resiliency (PRoSPER) project. I urge you to give this application full and fair consideration.

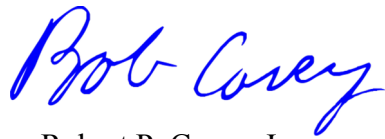
Pier 96 is a currently unused, 100-year-old pier at PhilaPort that sits just north of the Packer Avenue Marine Terminal (PAMT). PhilaPort staff have informed me that they would like to restore the site to full use, which would open up seven acres of property at the port. I understand that while the pier's below-deck structure is still in serviceable condition, the deck itself is made of concrete that has severely deteriorated and needs to be replaced.

To do this, PhilaPort staff have told me that they are seeking \$15,838,200 from the INFRA program to match \$10,558,800 in local and state matching funds to complete the rehabilitation of Pier 96. I understand that this work would include engineering, permitting, and construction for the new pier deck, as well as repairs to the landside structures that provide access to Pier 96, new guard rails, deck drains, and high-mast lighting to complement the new deck.

PhilaPort staff have explained to me that the completion of this project would create the space needed to accommodate 119 container chassis, improving the efficiency of port operations and making smarter use of the PAMT. They added that this would have positive downstream impacts for the movement of freight, regional and national supply chains and spur local job creation.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration. Please include this letter in the official record of the application. Consistent with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations, I also respectfully request that you keep me informed of the status of this grant application. Finally, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to contact me or my staff at (202) 224-6324.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob Casey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bob" and last name "Casey" clearly distinguishable.

Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator