

**AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT RAIL FREIGHT PROGRAM
GRANT APPLICATION**

Philadelphia Regional Port Authority

**Resolution No. 2025-09
September 17, 2025**

WHEREAS, the Philadelphia Regional Port Authority (“PhilaPort”) has been authorized under Section 6 of the Act of July 10, 1989, P.L. 291, 55 P.S. Section 697.1 et seq. of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (the “PRPA Act”) to promote, apply for and accept grants for the purposes of advancing regional port facilities and port-related projects to include furtherance of cooperative state efforts; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s Department of Transportation announced state funding for the FY 2025 Rail Freight Program; and

WHEREAS, eligible projects include freight port projects; and

WHEREAS, the staff of PhilaPort has reviewed port infrastructure projects that would benefit the region if grant funding were received; and

WHEREAS, the Board of PhilaPort has determined, on the basis of information provided to it (which information is attached hereto as Exhibit “A” and incorporated herein by reference) to approve the submission of an application for a Storage Track and Rail Turnout (“STaRT”) grant to enhance freight rail movement and increase productivity on the Tioga Marine Terminal (“TMT”).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The Board of Directors of PhilaPort hereby authorizes its staff to apply for grant funding through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s Department of Transportation’s FY 2025 Rail Freight Program for the project listed in Exhibit “A”, and submission of the formal grant application.
2. The Executive Director and CEO of PhilaPort, with the advice of its Chief Counsel, is hereby authorized and directed to negotiate the specific terms and conditions of the agreement(s) and the Executive Director and CEO is hereby authorized and directed to execute, acknowledge, and deliver on behalf of PhilaPort any agreements, documents or other instruments as may be necessary to effectuate such arrangements.

**AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT RAIL FREIGHT PROGRAM
GRANT APPLICATION**

Philadelphia Regional Port Authority

**Resolution No. 2025-09
September 17, 2025**

MOVED: Robert Clark

SECONDED: James Shacklett

APPROVAL: YES

Qualified Majority Required: No

Pearson*

Bryan**

Butler**

Clark*

Cuff**

Lazer***

McQuilkin*

Shacklett**

Santone***

Skoutelas***

Perelman*

Gubernatorial Appointee*

Legislative Appointee**

Gubernatorial Appointee - County Recommendation ***

MEMORANDUM

To: Philadelphia Regional Port Authority
Board of Directors

From: Valerie Piper
Grant Compliance Administrator

Date: September 10, 2025

RE: **FY 2025 Rail Freight Program Grant Application**

Background

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's (PennDOT) Bureau of Rail, Freight, Ports, and Waterways (Bureau) administers funding from the Multimodal Transportation Fund (PA Act 89) for the Rail Freight Program. PennDOT announced on August 4, 2025 that it would accept applications requesting funds for the Rail Freight Program through August 29, 2025. The program has a required match of 30%.

PhilaPort submitted a grant application to renovate the existing 2,600-foot section of rail storage track and turnout on the northern end of TMT. Rehabilitation of this terminal track is part of a multiphase rail strategy to improve the Tioga Marine Terminal's rail infrastructure and enhance the overall performance of the terminal's assets, which make it a competitive port to rail operation. Specifically, this improvement will allow rail cars to be spotted and stored for subsequent loading or unloading.

The project repair work would include replacing the rail cross ties, spikes, rail, and associated materials for the 2,600-foot rail storage track and turnout. This section of storage track is currently uneven due to age of the cross ties and rails. Rail, not in a state of good repair, tends to be inoperable during winter months and limits the full use of the track. Once completed, the terminal operator will have fully operable track to store approximately 36 empty rail cars on the terminal to reduce lost time and service disruptions in the event of rail operator delays.

The anticipated project cost is \$1,392,054. PhilaPort is requesting a \$974,437.80 (70%) grant with a local match of \$417,616.20 (30%) contributed by PhilaPort.

Recommendation

Staff requests that the Board authorize PhilaPort to submit, and if awarded execute required agreements, for the FY 2025 Rail Freight Program.

**AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT 2025
INNOVATIVE FINANCING AND ASSET CONCESSION PROGRAM
GRANT APPLICATION**

Philadelphia Regional Port Authority

**Resolution No. 2025-10
September 17, 2025**

WHEREAS, the Philadelphia Regional Port Authority (“PhilaPort”) has been authorized under Section 6 of the Act of July 10, 1989, P.L. 291, 55 P.S. Section 697 et seq. of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (the “PRPA Act”) to promote, apply for and accept grants for the purposes of advancing regional port facilities and port-related projects to include furtherance of cooperative state efforts; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Transportation (“USDOT”) announced federal funding for the 2025 Innovative Financing and Asset Concession Program; and

WHEREAS, eligible projects include port intermodal and freight projects; and

WHEREAS, the staff of PhilaPort has identified port property to evaluate for potential asset concession opportunities that would benefit the region if grant funding is received; and

WHEREAS, the Board of PhilaPort has determined, on the basis of information provided to it, to approve submission of a grant application.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That PhilaPort hereby authorizes its staff to apply for grant funding through the United States Department of Transportation’s 2025 Innovative Financing and Asset Concession Program; for the Southern Philadelphia Port District project, as the project listed in Exhibit “A” for submission of the formal grant application.
2. The Executive Director and CEO of PhilaPort, with the advice of its Chief General Counsel, is hereby authorized and directed to negotiate the specific terms and conditions of the agreements and the Executive Director and CEO is hereby authorized and directed to execute, acknowledge and deliver on behalf of PhilaPort any agreements, documents or other instruments as may be necessary to effectuate such arrangements.

**AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT 2025
INNOVATIVE FINANCING AND ASSET CONCESSION PROGRAM
GRANT APPLICATION**

Philadelphia Regional Port Authority

**Resolution No. 2025-10
September 17, 2025**

MOVED: Robert Clark

SECONDED: James Shacklett

APPROVAL: YES

Qualified Majority Required:

Pearson*

Bryan**

Butler**

Clark*

Cuff**

Lazer***

Maser*

Santone***

Shacklett**

Skoutelas***

Perelman*

Gubernatorial Appointee*

Legislative Appointee**

Gubernatorial Appointee - County Recommendation ***



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MEMORANDUM

To: Philadelphia Regional Port Authority
Board of Directors

From: Valerie Piper
Grant Compliance Administrator

Date: September 10, 2025

RE: **FY 2025 INNOVATIVE FINANCING AND ASSET CONCESSION PROGRAM
GRANT APPLICATION (Department of Transportation)**

Background

United States Department of Transportation (DOT) announced \$45.98 Million for the 2025-2026 Innovative Finance and Asset Concession (IFAC). IFAC Program is to facilitate and evaluate public-private partnerships in which the private sector partner could assume a greater role in project planning, development, financing, construction, maintenance, and operation, including by assisting a public entity in entering asset concessions.

PhilaPort operates several assets around and south of the Walt Whitman Bridge in its Southern Philadelphia Port District. These assets include 2904 through 2908 South Columbus Boulevard, Southport, and the Mustin Yard that is currently under agreement of sale to evaluate for potential asset concession opportunities and/or develop leveraging public or private funds. The proposed project is to secure professional services or advisors to advance the development of more than one of the Southern Philadelphia Port District related assets with economic assessments, financing options, and other pre-construction activities that will assist with entering into a potential concession agreement.

PhilaPort proposes submitting a grant application to fund the technical and/or expert services needed for evaluating one or more assets in the Southern Philadelphia Port District for an asset concession where payment PhilaPort receives is used to pay infrastructure costs.

Recommendation

Staff requests that the Board authorize PhilaPort staff to submit the project to the Department of Transportation 2025 IFAC for the Southern Philadelphia Port District Asset Services project.