



International Longshoremen's Association Local No. 1291

Port Administration Building • Suite 101 • 3460 North Delaware Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19134
215- 425-5822 • Fax: 215-425-6938 • E-mail: ACCUNION@aol.com

Boise Butler
President

Martin Mascuilli
Secretary-Treasurer

David Saunders
Business Agent

Maurice Mulgrew
Business Agent

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Sean Duffy
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue,
SE Washington D.C. 20590

RE: South Philadelphia Multimodal Freight Plan for Global Supply Chains

Dear Secretary Duffy,

On behalf of ILA Local 1291, I write to express strong support for the Philadelphia Regional Port Authority's (PhilaPort) FY26 BUILD grant application. The requested \$3,456,000 award would enable partners to plan and design critical freight connections linking major logistics hubs in South Philadelphia, including the Packer Avenue Marine Terminal (PAMT), the Navy Yard, and the emerging Bellwether District (TBWD), a 1,300-acre redevelopment poised to become a center for logistics, e-commerce, and life sciences.

South Philadelphia is experiencing unprecedented growth, and existing infrastructure must keep pace. With TBWD's development, expanded warehousing, and projected increases in container volumes at PhilaPort, the region will see continued growth in truck traffic. Proactive planning is essential to ensure freight networks remain safe, efficient, and capable of supporting sustaining union jobs.

For ILA Local 1291, this project represents more than infrastructure design, it is a pathway to expanded economic opportunity, strengthened freight connectivity, and greater participation of union labor in the developments reshaping South Philadelphia. Ensuring that future freight, logistics, and warehousing activity is supported by high-quality, skilled union workers will enhance both economic competitiveness and community benefit.

ILA Local 1291 fully supports this project and its role in connecting key economic hubs, reducing bottlenecks, and sustaining job growth across the region.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Boise Butler
President

ILA 1291

Sharief Byard
Vice President

Keith Browning
Recording Secretary

Keith Keenan
Sergent-at-Arms

Jay Singletary
Sergent-at-Arms

John Mulgrew
Trustee

Ray Bailey, Jr.
Trustee