

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2308

April 24, 2023

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

Rear Admiral Ann C. Phillips
Maritime Administrator
Maritime Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Duluth Seaway Port Authority Grant Application - MARAD Port Infrastructure Development

Dear Secretary Buttigieg and Rear Admiral Phillips:

I am writing to express my support for the Duluth Seaway Port Authority's (DSPA) application for \$30M in funding through the Port Infrastructure Development Program for their 2023 Duluth Port Intermodal Terminal Expansion project.

Northeast Minnesota has a long, industrious history of providing our nation with the resources and materials to support economic growth and vitality. The Port of Duluth-Superior has always been an important part of that story, and never more so than today. The Port of Duluth-Superior is the largest port on the Great Lakes and plays a crucial role in supporting a vast region, well beyond Minnesota and Wisconsin, with intermodal supply chain options that help businesses to grow through efficiency and customer reach, all while realizing a freight cost savings.

The 2023 Duluth Port Intermodal Terminal Expansion project will increase capacity within the port to accommodate the pent-up demand of growing businesses by adding 100,000 square feet of new on-dock rail-served warehouse space, removing dilapidated former grain elevators to create more than seven acres of laydown space for outdoor materials, and through the purchase of a new hybrid-electric mobile harbor crane. These additional assets will not only increase capacity for port operations, but allow growth within customer businesses, which in turn creates good-paying job opportunities and builds on the economic strength of our region.

The DSPA is a strong partner in our regional business community. Their proposed project results in clear benefits to several key industries including energy, manufacturing, agriculture, mining and mineral processing, and sustainable forest products and I strongly urge your support and approval of this application.

Sincerely,



Pete Stauber
Member of Congress