



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: DSPA Grant Application - MARAD Port Infrastructure Development***

Dear Secretary Buttigieg and Rear Admiral Phillips:

On behalf of Ecolibrium3 (Eco3), please accept this letter of commitment for the Duluth Seaway Port Authority's (DSPA) application for \$30M in funding through the Port Infrastructure Development Program to help fund the 2023 Duluth Port Intermodal Terminal Expansion project.

The DSPA owns and operates Clure Public Marine Terminal on Rice's Point in Duluth, which falls within the larger Lincoln Park neighborhood. Improvements to port infrastructure and service capabilities made by DSPA support the growth of well-paying industrial jobs in Duluth and strengthen supply chain options for regional industries. The 2023 Duluth Port Intermodal Terminal Expansion project includes the construction of 100,000 square feet of on-dock, rail-served warehouse space, the demolition of dilapidated grain elevators to allow for more than seven acres of outdoor material laydown area, and the purchase of a new hybrid-electric mobile harbor crane to enhance port operations and move the terminal toward decarbonization.

Eco3 is the lead frontline community-based organization in the port area. We steward the Justice40 Lincoln Park neighborhood, that incorporates this project area, with a focus on the intersection of energy, equity, and economic vitality. Eco3 and our Main Street LNPK program, continually partners with DSPA to ensure that actions are beneficial to our residents and businesses, and are moving our community toward greater health and lower economic disparity. The work proposed in this grant aligns with work we are leading in partnership with the US DOE's Communities Local Energy Action Plan program to develop a 10-year decarbonization action plan for Lincoln Park. Eco3 is eager to serve as the liaison between the C-LEAP work with the National Renewable Energy Lab and provide the DSPA with a forum for community outreach, as appropriate during project implementation.

We strongly urge funding of this application.

Sincerely,

Jodi Slick, CEO