



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:

As Chairs of the Senate and House Transportation Committees, we are pleased to provide this letter of support for the Duluth Seaway Port Authority's (DSPA) application for \$30 million in funding through the Port Infrastructure Development Program to help fund the 2023 Duluth Port Intermodal Terminal Expansion project.

The Clure Public Marine Terminal is located in the Port of Duluth-Superior, one of the top 20 ports in the United States by tonnage, and one of the largest marine gateways for U.S. trade with Canada, our nation's number one trade partner. The 2023 Duluth Port Intermodal Terminal Expansion project will help fund a new on-dock, rail-served warehouse (100,000 square feet), a hybrid electric crane with the capability to convert to 100% electric, and demolition of the elevators at the Duluth Lake Port facility to provide over seven acres of outdoor laydown space and support redevelopment of the property.

The total project cost is \$37.5 million, with \$7.5 million being provided by non-federal sources. This project leverages the port's position at the most westerly point of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway system. The port has direct uncongested access to three major highway corridors and four Class I railroads.

The initiatives within this grant application support the State of Minnesota's goals of promoting economic development in and around ports and harbors and expediting the movement of commodities on the commercial navigation system. This project is consistent with the 2018 Minnesota Statewide Freight System Plan and the Statewide Ports and Waterways Plan.

Your consideration and approval of this application is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "D. Scott Dibble".

Senator D. Scott Dibble  
Chair, Senate Transportation Committee  
95 University Avenue W.  
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3107  
St. Paul, MN 55155

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Frank D. Hornstein".

Representative Frank Hornstein  
Chair, House Transportation Committee  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
State Office Bldg., Room 563  
St. Paul, MN 55155