

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:

On behalf of Valley Worldwide Logistics Solutions, please accept this letter of support 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, which is located within the Port of Duluth-Superior. Improvements to port infrastructure and capabilities made by DSPA have been critical to the success of our operations. 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.

Valley Worldwide is an international logistics company serving a multitude of businesses in the Upper Midwest. With an office at the Port of Duluth, the infrastructure of the Port is of great importance to our company.

The initiatives within this grant application support our business goals of providing the best logistics services available to our customer base and the Port of Duluth plays a major role in the services that we provide to our customers. The improvements are needed to meet current demand and anticipated growth within our business.

We appreciate your consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Wayne D Larson

Wayne D Larson
Vice President of Global Markets
Valley Worldwide Logistics Solutions