AMY KLOBUCHAR MINNESOTA

COMMITTEES:

AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

JUDICIARY

RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 2, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg United States Secretary of Transportation United States Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue Southeast Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Duluth Seaway Port Authority, Port Infrastructure Development Program

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I write in support of the Duluth Seaway Port Authority's (DSPA) application for funding through the United States Maritime Administration's Port Infrastructure Development Program. If awarded, funding would support the Duluth Port Intermodal Terminal Expansion Project, which would make critical improvements and upgrades to the Duluth-Superior Port.

Located on the banks of Lake Superior, the Duluth-Superior Port is the largest port on the Great Lakes and a critical access point for U.S.-Canadian trade. Not only is the Port an essential component of the national shipping and logistics network, but it also plays an active role in the regional economy. Regional industries such as energy, manufacturing, agriculture, mining, mineral processing, and forestry all rely on the Port for shipping their goods and getting them to market. As a result, the Port continues to face high demand for its services. In order to accommodate the growing need for its services, the Port is seeking to expand its operations and update aging dock infrastructure.

Funding from the Port Infrastructure Development Program would be used to improve and upgrade the Duluth-Superior Port. Specifically, funding would support the reconstruction of two docks at the Clure Public Marine Terminal and the Duluth Lake Port. It would also help expand the port by demolishing two on-site obsolete grain elevators to increase capacity. These upgrades are critical to ensuring that Minnesota and Wisconsin businesses are able to efficiently export their products to the world, bolster the local economy by keeping businesses and workers in the region, strengthen maritime infrastructure of a critical port, and also boost the national supply chain.

Again, I support the Duluth Seaway Port Authority's application for funding through the United States Maritime Administration's Port Infrastructure Development Program. If you have any questions, please contact Rommel Lee in my Minnesota office at (612) 727-5220 or by email at Rommel Lee@Klobuchar.Senate.Gov.

Sincerely,

Amy Klobuchar United States Senator