

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



PORTLAND FREIGHT COMMITTEE

Re: Port of Portland Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) 2022 Grant Application – Strengthening Terminal 6 in Response to Operational Needs, Growth, and Energy Reliability (***STRONGER T6***)

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The City of Portland’s Freight Committee is pleased to support the Port of Portland’s PIDP 2022 project proposal, Strengthening Terminal 6 in Response to Operational Needs, Growth, and Energy Reliability (STRONGER T6) Project (the Project).

The Project improves pavement and electrical systems to increase the efficiency, productivity, and safety of cargo handling throughout the Port’s Marine Terminal 6 (T6) – Oregon’s only marine container terminal. This will accommodate the unprecedented growth of import and export containerized cargo. Specifically, the Project will expand the container terminal by approximately nine acres to allow stacking containers up to five high by providing a new, thicker pavement section, a new stormwater system, and electrical system upgrades that achieve emission reductions associated with improved energy efficiency. In addition, this Project will restore approximately 30 acres of pavement in the container storage yard where current conditions limit the ability to stack containers on top of each other and therefore limit the potential capacity at Terminal 6 to serve more Oregon shippers. The Port’s PIDP 2022 project will build upon a potential state grant (Connect Oregon) that would additionally increase container handling capacity in Terminal 6.

To help achieve carbon neutrality and improve container yard safety, the second element of the Project includes new electrical feeders within T6, to facilitate future electrification of yard equipment and shore power for ships, as well as new efficient LED yard lighting equipped with a wireless lighting control system. The electrical upgrades also position the Port of Portland to continue operations during and after a seismic event or other natural disasters.

Improving operational conditions that support direct container service at T6 will benefit Oregon and other west coast importers and exporters. Without this Project, businesses and workers throughout the Pacific Northwest, especially those in rural and disadvantaged communities, will lose their most cost-effective and reliable access to national and global markets.

The project will drive the prosperity of the State of Oregon and west coast shippers as the Port of Portland is focused on leveraging the Port’s resources to support the economic

vitality of the region and enable the community and workforce to benefit through both the construction and operation of the Project.

As members of Portland's freight community, we understand the importance of the Port's marine terminals to enable more people to share and drive the prosperity in the region. Well functioning marine terminals are essential to addressing supply chain issues. This project will support our economy and can help the region achieve our economic, safety, and equity goals.

In closing, we support the proposed Project because it will make significant improvements to freight mobility and the environment in Oregon that will result in a positive impact to the economy of Oregon and the nation as a whole.

Sincerely,

Jana Jarvis
Chair – Portland Freight Committee