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CONNECTICUT MARITIME COALITION



September 8, 2009

Ray LaHood, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: New Haven Port Authority

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing in strong support of the New Haven Port Authority's TIGER grant application for infrastructure improvements within their port district. The Connecticut Maritime Coalition ("CMC") is a member organization established to further the maritime industry in Connecticut; and as such we recognize the positive impact the proposed projects will have on the efficient movement of cargo. The construction of rail sidings and pipeline connections and the proximity to two major interstates will establish the Port of New Haven as a true inter-modal port.

CMC further recognizes the \$1.1 Billion economic impact the maritime industry has on our State's economy; and we are committed to the preservation and expansion of deep water facilities in Connecticut. We are therefore, encouraged and supportive of the bulkhead work and dredging being proposed at the North Yard section of the port that will enable a more intense maritime use of that area.

We fully support the New Haven Port Authority's application and consider the projects worthy of funding. We thank you for your consideration of this application.

Very truly yours,

William Gash
Executive Director