



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU  
Governor

March 28, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Madam Secretary,

This letter is written in strong support of the FASTLANE 2017 Grant application submitted by the Pease Development Authority, Division of Ports and Harbors (PDA-DPH) for the "Main Wharf Rehabilitation and Modification Project" at the Market Street Marine Terminal located on the Piscataqua River in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

The application request is for \$7.5 million in federal assistance of the \$12.5 million projected project cost. New Hampshire has committed \$5.0 million as the required 40% match for the project. The funds requested in the application are for the rehabilitation of the State of New Hampshire's only public access, general cargo, deep-water terminal. The project will address operational deficiencies at the terminal and will return the facility to full capacity to meet the current and future demands for the movement of ocean and coastal cargo in the region. Critical repairs are needed to certain elements of the wharf which, due to age, have been shut down presenting impediments to the safe and efficient handling of cargo.

Modifications to the existing Main Wharf are necessary to remove obstacles to the efficient handling of cargo and freight that cause costly delays and reduce safety at the facility. Direct access to vessels docked at the Main Wharf is currently not available due to an open water area between the wharf and the shore. The application provides details describing the need for this project.

To compete in a global economy, transportation infrastructure must keep pace with global growth. To meet those global markets, maritime transportation infrastructure must be maintained in a state of good repair and improving facilities efficiencies to meet the marine transportation needs of the future. The application for the "Main Wharf Rehabilitation Project" will demonstrate that, with the funding assistance of the U.S. Department of Transportation FASTLANE 2017 Grants Program, the PDA-DPH, Market Street Marine Terminal will continue to provide a regional marine transportation option for businesses currently located or desiring to locate in the Northeast region.

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I respectfully urge you to favorably consider funding the FASTLANE 2017 application of the Pease Development Authority, Division of Ports and Harbors "Main Wharf Rehabilitation Project".

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christopher T. Sununu". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C'.

Christopher T. Sununu  
Governor