



THE HONORABLE SHENG THAO • MAYOR OF OAKLAND

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August 9, 2023

Hon. Pete Buttigieg, Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Support for Port of Oakland's *Powering Progress* Grant Application to the Federal Highway Administration Reduction of Truck Emissions at Port Facilities Grant Program

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to share my enthusiastic support for the Port of Oakland's (Port) initiatives to increase the growing base of zero emissions on-road heavy duty trucks and equipment that are utilized throughout the seaport, which are currently being considered under the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) FY 2022-2023 Reduction of Truck Emissions at Port Facilities Grant Program (RTEPF). This project, being pursued by the Port in partnership with Eagle Rock Aggregates (Eagle Rock), will help the Port and Eagle Rock minimize vehicle idling, emissions, and the environmental impact on Port workers and residents of the neighboring community of West Oakland.

I am happy to see the Port's continued progress on modernization and emission reduction efforts, especially for the sake of West Oakland residents who have historically been impacted by heavy emissions and pollution. The Port has adopted an ambitious Seaport 2020 and Beyond Air Quality Plan, meticulously designed to curtail emissions associated with its operations while transitioning towards zero and near-zero emissions cargo processes. The Port is also implementing a wide range of ambitious programs that are demonstrating the reliability and market competitiveness of zero emissions cargo handling, drayage trucking, and related port equipment and is eager to support additional opportunities to ensure a wider adoption of this equipment throughout the freight community. Furthermore, the deployment of heavy-duty EV charging infrastructure and equipment used by seaport trucking and maritime terminal users is also among the highest priorities identified by West Oakland community stakeholders. Heavy-duty EV charging was identified as a top near-term priority implementation item in the West Oakland Community Air Action Plan ("Owning Our Air"), which was developed by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and the West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project.

I appreciate your continued commitment to an efficient and sustainable transportation network and thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheng Thao". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sheng" and last name "Thao" clearly distinguishable.

Sheng Thao
Mayor, City of Oakland