

April 25, 2023

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

**SUPPORT: Port of Oakland 2023 Port Infrastructure Development Project (PIDP)**  
**Application for the “TraPac Zero Emissions Cargo Handling Project”**

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the members of the Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA), which include ocean carriers and marine terminals operating at California’s public seaports, we write in support of the “TraPac Zero Emissions Cargo Handling Project” as included in the Port of Oakland’s application to the 2023 Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP). The support of this project by USDOT and the federal government’s partnership through approval of this grant funding request will create a true win-win: improving the efficiency of port operations at this critical intermodal gateway for US exports and imports while simultaneously improving air quality and reducing public health impacts at the neighboring communities near the Port.

Marine terminals in California are beginning an ambitious transition away from traditional diesel-powered cargo handling equipment that will take tremendous amounts of time, energy, planning, and capital. The state’s current plan is to fully effectuate this transition between now and 2037. While some zero-emissions equipment is already mature and implementable, it comes at tremendous expense, planning, and lead time for terminal redevelopment, all of which generally precludes the cost-effective deployment of these systems. In this context, most marine terminal operators throughout the state are looking for alternative technologies, subsidies, incentives, and regulatory stability during this transitional period. The TraPac Project as proposed will only be viable with significant assistance, and as proposed in this PIDP grant such assistance will make the replacement of conventional diesel-powered cargo handling equipment with zero emissions equipment, charging equipment, and related infrastructure cost-effective.

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

Sincerely,



Mike Jacob  
Vice President & General Counsel