

May 9, 2024

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

**SUPPORT - Port of Oakland 2024 Port Infrastructure Development Project (PIDP)
Proposal**

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the members of the Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA), we write in support for the Port of Oakland's 2024 Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) application for its "Outer Harbor Terminal: Modernizing Wharf Infrastructure for Efficiency and Safety Project." PMSA is a maritime trade association that represents ocean carriers and marine terminal operators doing business on the US West Coast.

This important grant funding request will help bring this \$66 million project to fruition, modernizing a critical waterfront asset, and revitalizing critical marine terminal infrastructure. This project involves wharf strengthening and needed structural repairs including upgrading crane girders, adding support piles, strengthening support beams, replacing crane rails, and removing the old electrical bus bar system and replacing it with a more reliable and safer cable reel system at Berths 24-26.

These needed improvements would accommodate larger ship-to-shore cranes required to seamlessly load and unload the ultra large container vessels calling on today's ports. Repairing and upgrading the existing wharf infrastructure will allow the Outer Harbor Terminal to be placed back into productive use as a marine terminal with the overarching goal of improving the efficiency of moving cargo in/out of the Port, accommodating larger vessels and the associated efficiency benefits of larger ships, and ensuring resiliency of the California supply chain.

We greatly appreciate the United States Department of Transportation's consideration of the requested investment in this project, as it supports the continued competitiveness of a critical export gateway for our nation's agricultural shippers. We thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Mike Jacob
President