

United States Senate

October 12, 2017

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

I am writing to you today to respectfully ask that you consider the FY 2017 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) discretionary grant application submitted to the United States Department of Transportation by the Port of South Louisiana (POSL).

POSL is North America's largest tonnage port, serving as an economic driver for the region and the nation. In 2016, the POSL logged 94.9 million short tons of throughput, setting a new cargo volume record. The combination of POSL's companies' capital and operational spending in 2013 supported 41 percent of all personal income and 63 percent of all jobs in the region.

The funding of this grant in addition to \$21 Million in local matching funds will be used to construct two new highly-efficient mobile harbor cranes to replace existing dilapidated gantry cranes, dock reinforcement to support the cranes, and a new heavy-capacity dock access bridge as part of the *GlobalPlex Intermodal Efficiency Improvements Project*. These improvements could reduce travel time savings of vessel crew, bring the terminal to a state of good repair, and reduce vehicle miles traveled.

Considering POSL's economic impact in the region and the nation, I respectfully ask that you give your careful attention and consideration to this proposal to continue the growth and vitality of the commerce it supports.

Please contact Jay Vicknair in my Lafayette office at 337-269-5979 or Jay_Vicknair@Kennedy.Senate.Gov with any questions or updates you may have during your review process.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



John Kennedy
United State Senator