



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

J. ERIC BOYETTE
SECRETARY

March 28, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

SUBJECT: NC State Ports Authority, New Intermodal Facility, 2022 RAISE Application

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of the North Carolina Department of Transportation, I am writing to express our support for the North Carolina State Ports Authority's application for the United States' Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grants program to fund the *New Intermodal Facility* at the Port of Wilmington.

The Port of Wilmington is a critical gateway to the global marketplace and for this project will help facilitate increased global trade for the nation, state, and region. The project is aligned with RAISE program goals, providing more than \$86.5 million in monetized benefits with a 4.8 benefit cost ratio by shifting container movements from truck to rail - helping to divert nearly more than 50,000 rail container moves annually by 2040. The project supports both regional and national economic vitality, supporting safe and cost-effective freight movement options for Port customers in both urban and rural communities. This project improves infrastructure condition, promotes regional connectivity and facilitates economic growth and competitiveness, especially for rural cargo customers.

North Carolina sees intermodal terminals as the future of moving freight, efficiently transferring containers between trains and trucks, providing a competitive advantage to customers and lowering transportation costs while taking trucks off the road and reducing emissions. The proposed RAISE grant for the *New Intermodal Facility* at the Port of Wilmington would help shift the mode of freight transportation to rail, thereby reducing congestion and bottlenecks on the National Highway Freight Network, providing significant public benefit.

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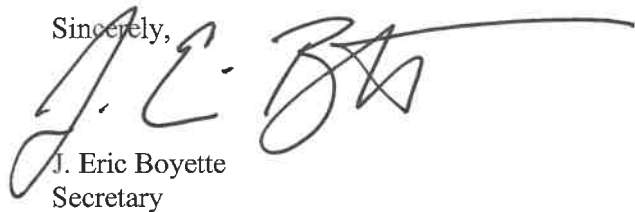
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Website: www.ncdot.gov

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
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Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Eric Boyette". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

J. Eric Boyette
Secretary

SH