

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

April 11, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave SE
Washington, D.C., 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

We are writing to express our strong support for the application submitted by the Maine Department of Transportation for funding through the U.S. Department of Transportation's Fostering Advancements in Shipping and Transportation for the Long-Term Achievement of National Efficiencies (FASTLANE) grant program. The Maine Intermodal Port Productivity Project (MIPPP) is an ideal candidate for funding as it meets the goal of the FASTLANE program by enhancing multimodal freight transportation. The total cost of the project is \$15.4 million. The Maine Department of Transportation is seeking \$7.7 million in FASTLANE funds, which will be matched with another \$7.7 million in contributions by non-federal sponsors.

The MIPPP would make improvements to the International Marine Terminal at the Port of Portland building on previous freight upgrades to double the output capacity for this important northeastern intermodal seaport, which is critical to trade with Canada and Northern Europe. The recent reconnection of rail service to the Port has revitalized domestic market access and provides the opportunity to lower transportation costs for Maine businesses. The improvements proposed in the MIPPP will improve rail service and the efficiency of operations at the Port while increasing safety.

The Project involves a number of infrastructure upgrades to the existing intermodal terminal, including: a rehabilitated pier and wharf deck; an additional mobile harbor crane; a new terminal operations and maintenance facility; and safety improvements for the existing intermodal yard. These physical improvements will enable the Port to more safely and efficiently connect with the national rail network and will minimize highway traffic from New York State to the State of Maine.

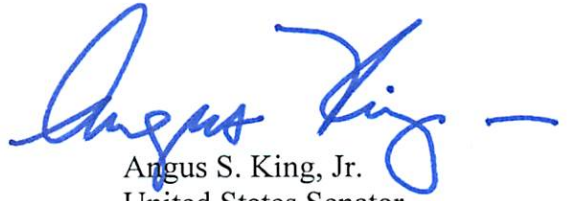
We are confident that FASTLANE funds would create jobs, increase freight velocity, and improve the global competitiveness of Maine through the Port's revitalization. The Maine Department of Transportation has stated the MIPPP will be ready to proceed immediately upon receiving funding. As such, we respectfully request that you give this application every appropriate consideration subject to all applicable laws and regulations.

In addition, we request that you notify Elizabeth McDonnell (Collins) at (202) 224-2523, Adam Lachman (King) at (202) 224-5344, Joe Marro (Pingree) at (202) 225-6116, and Michael Sinacore (Poliquin) at (202) 225-6306 when a final determination has been made.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Collins
United States Senator



Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator



Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



Bruce Poliquin
Member of Congress



STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0001

Paul R. LePage
GOVERNOR

April 8, 2016

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

Dear Secretary Foxx,

I write to express my ardent support for MaineDOT's FASTLANE grant application for the Maine Intermodal Port Productivity Project (MIPPP) at the Intermodal Marine Terminal (IMT) at the Port of Portland in Maine. We request approval of our total project cost of \$15.4 million, with an award of \$7.7 million from FASTLANE grant funding, with a 50% match of state and private funds.

The IMT is undoubtedly one of Maine's greatest transportation success stories of this century, and yet it has incredible potential to add much more to the logistical needs of the region. More than \$30,000,000 of State funds has been invested since the Maine Port Authority began operating the IMT in 2009. Once an abandoned eyesore, the IMT has become a vital part of Maine's transportation infrastructure. Capital improvements include rail acquisition and expansions to connect the IMT to major rail lines, installation of reefer plugs, port security enhancements, large equipment purchases and the design of a cold storage facility to support the thriving food and beverage industry in our State and New England.

Maine's investments attracted the Icelandic shipping company Eimskip to make Portland its U.S. headquarters increasing the number of ship calls from zero to a projected 50 in less than eight years. This has opened new business opportunities for our region in the northern markets of the world such as Scandinavia, Northern Europe and the Arctic. In addition, the State recently awarded a contract to Americold to build a 150,000 square foot cold storage facility on the IMT site. Investment in rail and trucking infrastructure now provides regional businesses with a host of other logistical opportunities.

Modest projections for the port's growth in 2017 are at 27% in container moves; with the project enhancements from the MIPPP, we estimate the growth to be upwards of 50%. Enhancements to the pier, the purchase of an additional crane and other loading equipment and further upgrades to rail and port security will allow our port the capacity needed to manage the increasing demand for freight transportation options in New England. Particularly in New England, it is essential

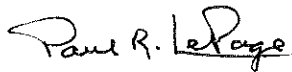


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that we find ways to reduce congestion and move freight economically and efficiently in order to maintain our global competitiveness.

This is a truly exciting time for growth of our multi-modal transportation in the northeast. The award of FASTLANE grant funding will allow us to continue our mission of advancing marine and rail facilities in support of economic development in Maine, New England and across the world. I urge your thoughtful consideration of our project and support in advancing economic prosperity of our region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Paul R. LePage". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "P" and "L".

Paul R. LePage

Governor, State of Maine



PAN AM RAILWAYS
1700 IRON HORSE PARK
NO. BILLERICA, MA 01862

April 14, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to express my support for Maine DOT's application to the FASTLANE program for funding for the Maine Intermodal Port Productivity Project (MIPPP). We are the serving freight railroad at the International Marine Terminal in Portland. The increased productivity and capacity that would result from the improvements proposed in the application will support more efficient freight rail movements to and from the IMT that help to grow our business and create jobs.

We began moving trains from the IMT's intermodal yard in January of 2016. We were immensely pleased to see the rail restored to the terminal, and are excited for the growth potential it represents for our company, Portland and the region. Rail improvements included in the MIPPP will dramatically improve the rail conditions at the IMT and increase the possibilities for more Maine shippers to utilize rail to move their freight.

We have been pleased with our experience at the terminal since the Maine Port Authority began operating it in 2009. The state and federal investments since then have greatly improved the facility, and reconnected Maine with Atlantic Canada, Scandinavia, Northern Europe, and the Arctic. The improvements proposed in the MIPPP not only build off of investment done to date, but also increase the efficiency of ongoing operations. We anticipate that these improvements will contribute to growth in our business, as volumes increase at the terminal, so too will our opportunity to handle more freight.

We strongly support the Maine DOT's application and funding these improvements through the FASTLANE program.

Sincerely,



Capt. Jeffrey W. Monroe, MM, CMPE
Director of Education and Training
P.O. Box 2729
South Portland, Maine 04116
Office: 207.741.7000
Cell: 207.615.7989
jeffrey.monroe@iampe.org

IAMPE

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF MARITIME AND PORT EXECUTIVES

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to express my support for MaineDOT's application to the FASTLANE program for funding for the Maine Intermodal Port Productivity Project (MIPPP). We currently offer trainings at the International Marine Terminal for maritime and port professionals who are looking to advance their professional development.

The mission of our organization to create a standard for maritime and port professionals, and we offer courses in support of this mission at port locations across North America. We find the incorporation of a training facility into the MIPPP to be a vision that is beneficial not only to the port itself but to the entire industry. The industry is in need of competent, forward-thinking professionals, and we intend to train a generation of such professionals. The Maine Port Authority's approach of consensus building and innovation is a model for forward-thinking port development.

We have been pleased with our experience at the terminal since the Maine Port Authority began operating it in 2009. The state and federal investments since then have greatly improved the facility, and reconnected Maine with Atlantic Canada, Scandinavia, Northern Europe, and the Arctic. The recent reconnecting of rail service to the facility has revitalized domestic market access and provides the opportunity for us to lower our transportation costs. The improvements proposed in the MIPPP not only build off of investment done to date, but also increase the efficiency of extant operations.

We strongly support the MaineDOT's application and funding these improvements through the FASTLANE program.

Sincerely,

Captain Jeffery W Monroe

April 14, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to express my support for MaineDOT's application to the FASTLANE program for funding for the Maine Intermodal Port Productivity Project (MIPPP). We currently provide labor at the International Marine Terminal in Portland. The productivity increases that would result from the improvements proposed in the application will result in more job opportunities for our members.

The Portland Longshoremen's Benevolent Society has provided labor for the Portland waterfront since the 1880's. In our organization's history, Portland's waterfront has peaked and then steadily declined. We have been excited to be a part of a resurgence of containerized freight at the International Marine Terminal, and have seen how efficiency and growth create jobs and opportunities for our members. The improvements to the IMT included in the MIPPP will continue to grow the IMT as an asset to the state, the region, and our membership.

We have been pleased with our experience at the terminal since the Maine Port Authority began operating it in 2009. The state and federal investments since then have greatly improved the facility, and reconnected Maine with Atlantic Canada, Scandinavia, Northern Europe, and the Arctic. The recent reconnecting of rail service to the facility has revitalized domestic market access and provides the opportunity for us to lower our transportation costs. The improvements proposed in the MIPPP not only build off of investment done to date, but also increase the efficiency of extant operations. We anticipate that these improvements will contribute to growth in our organization.

We strongly support the MaineDOT's application and funding these improvements through the FASTLANE program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael J. Fox". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael Fox
President – Portland Longshoremen's Benevolent Society



Executive Department

April 14, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

On behalf of the administration of the City of Portland, Maine, I am writing to express our strong support for MaineDOT's application to the FASTLANE program for funding for the Maine Intermodal Port Productivity Project (MIPPP). The improvements included in the MIPPP will serve to benefit our City's businesses and residents.

Through the work of the MaineDOT and the Maine Port Authority, the International Marine Terminal (IMT) has transformed from an under-performing liability to a transportation and economic asset of international significance. For the first time ever, the Port of Portland now links to international ports with direct marine/rail/highway connections for containerized freight.

The recent reconnecting of rail service to the facility has provided Portland's businesses the opportunity to handle more freight through the terminal. The improvements proposed in the MIPPP not only build off of investment done to date, but also increase the efficiency of IMT operations. Transportation efficiencies create the environment that fosters continued business investment, enforcing the Southern Maine region's recognition as a leader in food and beverage manufacturing.

The City of Portland looks forward to a continuing partnership with the Maine Port Authority as operators of the IMT since 2009. The Maine Port Authority has garnered state and federal investments fostering efficient freight connections between Maine and Atlantic Canada, Scandinavia, Northern Europe, and the Arctic. With increased trade, the City has also benefitted from cultural interchange brought by the Port Authority's relationship with Eimskip and the people of Iceland.

The above successes cannot stand alone and only begin to open our regional potential. Therefore, we strongly support the MaineDOT's application and funding for continued improvements at the IMT through the FASTLANE program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jon P. Jennings".

Jon P. Jennings, City Manager
City of Portland, Maine



April 14, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to express my support for MaineDOT's application to the FASTLANE program for funding for the Maine Intermodal Port Productivity Project (MIPPP). We currently utilize the freight services at the International Marine Terminal in Portland. The productivity increases that would result from the improvements proposed in the application will result in net gains to our bottom line thanks to savings in transportation and logistics costs. These savings grow our business and create jobs.

We have been moving containers through the IMT's new rail bulkhead since January of 2016. In setting up and running this process, we have found the Maine Port Authority's approach to be one of facilitation and consensus. This has been crucial in establishing a new logistics chain, as there are multiple parties with a number of interests to align to make the operation happen. We look forward to new, cost effective, and sustainable freight logistics options through the IMT made possible by programs like FASTLANE.

We have been pleased with our experience at the terminal since the Maine Port Authority began operating it in 2009. The state and federal investments since then have greatly improved the facility, and reconnected Maine with Atlantic Canada, Scandinavia, Northern Europe, and the Arctic. The recent reconnecting of rail service to the facility has revitalized domestic market access and provides the opportunity for us to lower our transportation costs. The improvements proposed in the MIPPP not only build off of investment done to date, but also increase the efficiency of extant operations. We anticipate that these improvements will contribute to growth in our business.

We strongly support the MaineDOT's application and funding these improvements through the FASTLANE program. Please contact me at (207) 240-7581 if you would like to further discuss this.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Chris Haynes".

Christopher A. Haynes
Director, Northeast Logistics
Nestle Waters North America



April 14, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to express my support for MaineDOT's application to the FASTLANE program for funding for the Maine Intermodal Port Productivity Project (MIPPP). We currently handle freight that passes through the International Marine Terminal in Portland. The productivity increases that would result from the improvements proposed in the application will result in savings in our operations costs and thus enable us to make this lane more competitive. These savings grow our business and create jobs.

Eimskip moved its US port of call from Norfolk to Portland in 2013. Since then, we have worked closely with the Maine Port Authority to grow our freight volumes. We have been immensely pleased with the efforts of the MPA to not only help us grow, but also to promote cultural interchange between Maine and the ports we call in the North Atlantic. The Port Authority's willingness to accommodate our needs and take a customer-oriented approach has affirmed our decision to move our operations to Portland.

We have been pleased with our experience at the terminal since the Maine Port Authority began operating it in 2009. The state and federal investments since then have greatly improved the facility, and reconnected Maine with Atlantic Canada, Scandinavia, Northern Europe, and the Arctic. The recent reconnecting of rail service to the facility has provided us the opportunity to handle more freight through the terminal. The improvements proposed in the MIPPP not only build off of investment done to date, but also increase the efficiency of extant operations. We anticipate that these improvements will contribute to growth in our business, as volumes increase at the terminal, so too will our opportunities to handle more freight.

We strongly support the MaineDOT's application and funding these improvements through the FASTLANE program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Larus Isfeld', with a stylized, flowing script.

Larus Isfeld



MAINE INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER

Global Resources. Local Expertise.

April 11, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx,

The Maine Intermodal Port Productivity Project (MIPPP) is an excellent candidate for the FASTLANE grant. The updated port has already succeeded in attracting Eimskip, an international container shipping company, to Portland. With vessels calling Portland three times every five weeks, this has given Portland and the state of Maine direct access to the International market. The improvements slated for The MIPPP will further improve Maine's access to industry and capacity to serve as an international transportation hub. The new PanAm rail linkage, with phase I completed in December 2015, and a new Americold 100,000 square foot cold storage facility scheduled to be completed at the port in 2017, will solidify the Port of Portland as an intermodal hub with more flexibility and range in the types of products it can handle.

Improvements to the Portland International Marine Terminal will make it easier for Maine companies to participate in the global market. Not only does it bring down the cost of drayage/trucking but the port's increased capacities will facilitate the logistics of shipping heavy-weight and over-sized items that are difficult to ship via traditional roadways and highway infrastructure.

International Trade now supports over 180,000 jobs, representing 1 in 5 jobs in Maine. Thus, ease of access to the international market directly affects workers and job growth in the state.

We highly recommend the Maine Intermodal Port Productivity Project for the FASTLANE grant.

Sincerely,

Janine Bisaillon-Cary
President and State Director of International Trade
Maine International Trade Center

April 4, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

On behalf of the Greater Portland Council of Governments (GPCOG), I am writing to express our support for MaineDOT's application to the FASTLANE program for funding for the Maine Intermodal Port Productivity Project (MIPPP).

GPCOG is the regional planning agency serving 26 cities and towns in Greater Portland and the Sebago Lakes region. As a Federally designated Economic Development District, one of our core responsibilities is the creation of a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the region. Our strategy, developed from 2011 to 2013, prioritizes agriculture and fisheries as the region's top clusters. One of the high priority projects in our current CEDS is to "Increase access of Maine products to global markets," including improvements at the International Marine Terminal. For reference, please see www.gpcog.org/economic-comm-development/gpcog-economic-dev-district/.

On May 28, 2014, the White House designated the Greater Portland Sustainable Food Production Cluster, led by GPCOG, as one of the nation's 12 Manufacturing Communities. One of our IMCP goals is to "increase Maine's global food exports by 25%." Full implementation of our IMCP strategic plan, as advanced by this project, will generate over \$400 million to the state's economy.
www.gpcog.org/economic-comm-development/investing-in-manufacturing-communities-partnership/

Since they began operating the terminal in 2009, we have been extremely impressed with the Maine Port Authority's efforts to reposition the Port of Portland as the gateway to the North Atlantic. Furthermore, the FASTLANE application builds on the State's recent investment to connect the port with the national rail system.

Thank you for your consideration of this important initiative so vital to the economic prosperity of Maine and the United States.

Sincerely,



Neal W. Allen
Executive Director

Serving the Greater Portland and Lakes Region Communities

970 Baxter Boulevard, Suite 201 ♦ Portland, Maine 04103 ♦ Telephone (207) 774-9891 ♦ Fax (207) 774-7149

R.C. MOORE, INC.

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(800) 831-6362
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Dispatch Fax:
(207) 883-6669

4 Spring Water Road
Poland, ME
04274
(207) 376-0600
(866) 325-7173
Fax: (207) 998-3530

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Troutman, NC
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Fax: (866) 872-4861

FLORIDA

1820 Massaro Blvd.
Tampa, FL
33619
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(844) 283-4730
Fax: (877) 850-9079

April 4, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

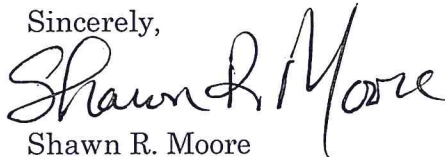
I am writing to express my support for MaineDOT's application to the FASTLANE program for funding for the Maine Intermodal Port Productivity Project (MIPPP). We currently handle freight that passes through the International Marine Terminal in Portland. The productivity increases that would result from the improvements proposed in the application will result in net gains to our bottom line thanks to savings in our operations costs. These savings grow our business and create jobs.

We have been operating in Maine since 1966. In that time we have seen many transportation infrastructure changes come and go. We are immensely excited by the recent developments at the IMT, as it bucks a trend of waterfront decline that has plagued Portland for the past several decades. We are pleased to work closely with the MPA on transportation offerings, including the recent rail project at the IMT. The MIPPP developments at the IMT will create opportunities for Maine businesses and benefit the region at large.

We have been pleased with our experience at the terminal since the Maine Port Authority began operating it in 2009. The state and federal investments since then have greatly improved the facility, and reconnected Maine with Atlantic Canada, Scandinavia, Northern Europe, and the Arctic. The recent reconnecting of rail service to the facility has provided us the opportunity to handle more freight through the terminal. The improvements proposed in the MIPPP not only build off of investment done to date, but also increase the efficiency of extant operations. We anticipate that these improvements will contribute to growth in our business, as volumes increase at the terminal, so too will our opportunity to handle more freight.

We strongly support the MaineDOT's application and funding these improvements through the FASTLANE program.

Sincerely,


Shawn R. Moore
Chief Executive Officer



PALCO AIR CARGO
NEW HAMPSHIRE FREIGHT

P.O. BOX 428
SCARBOROUGH, ME 04070
PHONE 207-284-0030
FAX 207-284-0053

April 6, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to express my support for MaineDOT's application to the FASTLANE program for funding for the Maine Intermodal Port Productivity Project (MIPPP). We currently handle freight that passes through the International Marine Terminal in Portland. The productivity increases that would result from the improvements proposed in the application will result in net gains to our bottom line thanks to the savings in our operation costs. These savings grow our business and create jobs.

We have followed the growth of the International Marine Terminal closely. When Eimskip came to Portland, they selected us to handle the bulk of their trucking to and from customers all over the region. Our work with the Maine Port Authority has been phenomenal; they are responsive to our needs, forward-thinking, and committed to improving transportation in the state. The improvements included in the MIPPP would be an enormous asset to our operations at the IMT.

We have been pleased with our experience at the terminal since the Maine Port Authority began operating it in 2009. The state and federal investments since then have greatly improved the facility, and reconnected Maine with the Atlantic Canada, Scandinavia, Northern Europe, and the Arctic. The recent reconnecting of the rail service to the facility has provided us the opportunity to handle more freight through the terminal. The improvements proposed in the MIPPP not only build off investment done to date, but will contribute to growth in our business, as volumes increase at the terminal, so too will our opportunity to handle more freight.

We strongly support the MaineDOT's application and funding these improvements through the FASTLANE program.

Sincerely,


Josh Bernstein



April 14, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to express my support for MaineDOT's application to the FASTLANE program for funding for the Maine Intermodal Port Productivity Project (MIPPP). We currently utilize the freight services at the International Marine Terminal in Portland. The productivity increases that would result from the improvements proposed in the application will result in net gains to our bottom line thanks to savings in transportation and logistics costs. These savings grow our business and create jobs.

We have been moving our spirits through the International Marine Terminal since 2011. The Maine Port Authority's focus on bringing transportation options to Maine - including chassis pool services, waterborne freight service, and container yard services - has been a boon to our company's logistics costs. Logistics costs can often present a barrier to expanding our market reach and building our volumes. Efforts like the MIPPP help our company to grow by giving us more transportation options.

We have been pleased with our experience at the terminal since the Maine Port Authority began operating it in 2009. The state and federal investments since then have greatly improved the facility, and reconnected Maine with Atlantic Canada, Scandinavia, Northern Europe, and the Arctic. The recent reconnecting of rail service to the facility has revitalized domestic market access and provides the opportunity for us to lower our transportation costs. The improvements proposed in the MIPPP not only build off of investment done to date, but also increase the efficiency of extant operations. We anticipate that these improvements will contribute to growth in our business.

We strongly support the MaineDOT's application and funding these improvements through the FASTLANE program.

Sincerely,

Harold Jones
Harold Jones
Executive Manager



L.L.Bean INC
FREEPORT, MAINE 04033

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CUSTOMER SERVICE 800-341-4341



April 15th, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to express my support for Maine DOT's application to the FASTLANE program for funding for the Maine Intermodal Port Productivity Project (MIPPP). We currently utilize the freight services at the International Marine Terminal (IMT) in Portland. The productivity increases that would result from the improvements proposed in the application will result in quicker transits, provide Maine jobs, and savings in transport costs. These savings would contribute to growth in our business and benefits to our customers.

We have moved freight through the IMT since 2010. The Maine Port Authority's focus on bringing transportation options to Maine - including chassis pool services, waterborne freight service, and container yard services have provided alternative transportation options. We have been able to navigate the congested NY/NJ gateway, by leveraging the services at the IMT. Efforts like the MIPPP present opportunities to help our company and the Maine shipping community grow by providing more regional transportation solutions.

We have been pleased with our experience at the terminal since the Maine Port Authority began operating it in 2009. The state and federal investments since then have greatly improved the facility. The recent reconnecting of rail service to the facility has revitalized domestic market access and provides potential future opportunity for extended rail connectivity that we can leverage. The improvements proposed in the MIPPP not only build off of investment done to date, but also increase the efficiency of extant operations.

We strongly support the Maine DOT's application and funding these improvements through the FASTLANE program. If you have any additional questions regarding our support, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jack Samson

Vice President of Fulfillment, Manufacturing, & Logistics
L.L. Bean, Inc.

**Office of the Mayor, Ethan K. Strimling**

April 14, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

On behalf of the administration of the City of Portland, Maine, I am writing to express our strong support for MaineDOT's application to the FASTLANE program for funding for the Maine Intermodal Port Productivity Project (MIPPP). The improvements included in the MIPPP will serve to benefit our City's businesses and residents.

Through the work of the MaineDOT and the Maine Port Authority, the International Marine Terminal (IMT) has transformed from an under-performing liability to a transportation and economic asset of international significance. For the first time ever, the Port of Portland now links to international ports with direct marine/rail/highway connections for containerized freight.

The recent reconnecting of rail service to the facility has provided Portland's businesses the opportunity to handle more freight through the terminal. The improvements proposed in the MIPPP not only build off of investment done to date, but also increase the efficiency of IMT operations. Transportation efficiencies create the environment that fosters continued business investment, enforcing the Southern Maine region's recognition as a leader in food and beverage manufacturing.

The City of Portland looks forward to a continuing partnership with the Maine Port Authority as operators of the IMT since 2009. The Maine Port Authority has garnered state and federal investments fostering efficient freight connections between Maine and Atlantic Canada, Scandinavia, Northern Europe, and the Arctic. With increased trade, the City has also benefitted from cultural interchange brought by the Port Authority's relationship with Eimskip and the people of Iceland.

The above successes cannot stand alone and only begin to open our regional potential. Therefore, we strongly support the MaineDOT's application and funding for continued improvements at the IMT through the FASTLANE program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ethan K. Strimling", is written over a large, stylized circular flourish.

Ethan K. Strimling, Mayor
City of Portland, Maine