Puget Sound Regional Council
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April 19, 2023

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

Subject: Support for NWSA Husky Terminal Expansion Part One

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

On behalf of the Puget Sound Regional Council, I am writing in support for the 2023 U.S. Department of Transportation Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) grant application submitted by The Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA) for its Husky Terminal Expansion Part One Project. Husky Terminal, located in Tacoma's tideflats, is surrounded by a historically disadvantaged community that will benefit from both lower emissions and new jobs.

This project will support PIDP goals of improving the safety, efficiency, and reliability of the movement of goods through the Port. As demonstrated in the application, the project will densify a busy international container terminal, adding capacity and optimizing storage. The project will also significantly lower carbon emissions by installing power infrastructure needed to support electrification and minimizing the time that vessels are required to stay at berth. Increased reefer capacity will also benefit agricultural exporters, who have weathered several difficult years of supply chain upheaval.

Improving export capacity will not only help our nation’s exporting industries, but also help restore balance to the overall supply chain and access to empty containers for U.S. exporters that ship their products across the globe. The Husky Terminal Expansion Part One Project will allow NWSA to better compete in international markets while also meeting its goal of zero carbon emissions by 2050. We strongly endorse this project as a next step in making a key U.S. trade gateway more efficient and improving our region’s competitiveness with Canadian seaports and supply chains. We urge you to fully fund the Husky Terminal Expansion Part One application.

Sincerely,

J. W. Brown

Josh Brown, Executive Director
Puget Sound Regional Council