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United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510–4705

May 18, 2026

The Honorable Sean Duffy
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

The Honorable Stephen Carmel
Administrator
U.S. Maritime Administrator
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Duffy and Administrator Carmel,

I am writing in support of the Port of Grays Harbor's application to the Department of Transportation's Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP). The Port of Grays Harbor is seeking $6.274 million for its Westport Marina Modernization, Float 15 Replacement project.

The Port of Grays Harbor is a county-wide port district serving approximately 72,000 residents across rural Southwest Washington through seven lines of business, including marine terminals, pilotage services, Bowerman Airport, and the Westport Marina. A port of national significance, the Westport Marina is Washington state's largest commercial seafood landing port and currently ranks 10th in the nation for both volume and value landed. For decades, the Marina has served as the economic hub of tribal, commercial, charter, and recreational fishing on Washington's Pacific Coast, supporting nearly 2,700 jobs and generating over $227 million in business revenue annually in rural Southwest Washington. Westport-landed and processed seafood is exported to more than 85 countries worldwide, but the Marina’s floating dock infrastructure is now 40 to 60 years old and increasingly unable to accommodate the modern commercial fishing fleet. Float 15 in particular provides essential moorage for the fleet's largest vessels, and its deteriorating condition threatens the safety and efficiency of operations critical to the Pacific Northwest's seafood industry.

If successful, the Port of Grays Harbor will use this funding to advance final design, bid, and construct the Float 15 Replacement Project at Westport Marina. The project is fully permitted with 30 percent design complete and will demolish the existing float before installing a new structure featuring 65- to 100-foot slips, upgraded shore power, a new gangway, abutment, piles, and modernized electrical and mechanical systems. These improvements will safeguard a vital national fishery, sustain rural jobs, and ensure Westport remains a cornerstone of the West Coast's commercial fishing industry.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration of the Port of Grays Harbor's application to the PIDP.

Sincerely,



Maria Cantwell

United States Senator