

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4704

October 29, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I write support of an application submitted by the Port of Everett for the U.S. Department of Transportation's *Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grants* program to acquire and restore a brownfield site located in Everett, Washington.

The Port of Everett is seeking an BUILD grant to acquire a 58-acre urban deep-water port site that has been inactive since the mill located on the site closed in 2012. The Port would restore the brownfield to a functioning property capable of supporting maritime freight and commerce. The Port of Everett has a long history of supporting military operations, and restoring the site could support activities at the adjacent Naval Station Everett and would open the door for an expanded U.S. Coast Guard presence in the area. The acquisition of the property would ensure compatible land use with Naval Station Everett to prevent encroachment concerns, and the restored site would meet upland space requirements under the Department of Defense's Strategic Seaport Program.

Everett is located in fastest growing county in Washington state. Restoring this property would stimulate Everett's waterfront economy, and would create approximately 350-500 new jobs and an additional 1,500 jobs based on indirect economic impact. Everett also is intrinsically tied to international trade and the Port's acquisition of this site would allow Everett, surrounding communities, and Naval Station Everett more opportunities for future economic growth.

Thank you for your consideration of the Port of Everett's application. Please contact Flannery Fox in my Washington, D.C. office at 202-224-2621 with any questions.

Sincerely,



Patty Murray
United States Senator