



June 1, 2015

The Honorable Anthony R. Foxx

Secretary

United States Department of Transportation

Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: **Letter of Support from City of Morgan City, Louisiana (Port of Morgan City)
2015 TIGER VII Discretionary Grant Application (MCHTD)**

Dear Secretary Foxx:

As Managing Member of Morgan City Stevedores, LLC based in Amelia, Louisiana please accept this correspondence as a "Letter of Support" for the Port of Morgan City's application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's FY 2015 *Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) VII Discretionary Grant Program*. It is my understanding that the port would like to expand their dock for business development purposes, and this would help my company out greatly. Also, I understand that the estimated total costs amount to \$15 million; and therefore, the port is requesting \$12 million in TIGER funding and will provide a non-federal match of \$3 million. To implement this project, Tiger funds will be used to design, engineer and construct over 64,000 ft of additional dock area at the port, providing immediate economic and safety benefits. I can attest that this is true!

During 2015, Morgan City Stevedores, LLC has been in a close working relationship with the port officials at Morgan City to expand different commodity groups through the port. Currently we have handled rice from Louisiana and DDG's from the Upper Midwest. Presently we are bidding on export loading of heavy industrial cargo for the Petro-Chemical Industry and a bagging operation in the port.

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We would like to expand but we are restricted due to the lack of improved dock space and lay-down area. We are confident that if the port can expand the usable area on the Canal, we can secure the additional business that will add jobs and improve the economy of the local area while providing an outlet for other areas of the nation.

In closing, thank you for your consideration in this matter, Mr. Secretary; and, once again, please know that I am in full support of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's FY 2015 *TIGER* application because it improves transportation, safety and economic development in the state and nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roland Shapley", is written over the printed name.

Roland Shapley

Managing Member

Morgan City Stevedores, LLC

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