



November 30, 2016

The Honorable Anthony R. Foxx  
United States Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, Southeast  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx,

I am writing in support of the South Carolina Ports Authority's (SCPA) FASTLANE grant application for funding to complete the development of its Inland Port facility in Dillon, South Carolina.

This new intermodal facility, located on the CSX mainline and just a mile from I-95, will utilize existing road and rail infrastructure to support growing cargo volume through the Port of Charleston. Located inside the I-95 Industrial SuperPark, the facility will spur significant investment in the region. With the tremendous success of SCPA's Inland Port Greer in Upstate South Carolina, as well as the increase in cargo volume from post-Panamax ships calling Charleston, expanding SCPA's inland port network is imperative. Additionally, S.C. Inland Port Dillon will remove approximately 25,000 trucks from I-26 and I-95 annually, making roads safer, create transportation efficiencies that will save consumers money, reduce emissions, and increase the movement of freight throughout the state and region.

The SCPA is a major strategic asset for our state and is a key economic development driver in the Pee Dee region of the state, with an annual impact of \$6.3 billion. That translates to 23,000 jobs and \$1.2 billion in labor income. In all, 1 in 14 jobs in the region is tied to the port.

Development of the Inland Port Dillon will drive vital economic development opportunities to an area of the state that is traditionally underserved. We fully support SCPA's innovative efforts to empower our small state to play a big role in the world economy and hope you will support SCPA's grant application.

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Sincerely,

Ted Pitts  
President & CEO  
South Carolina Chamber of Commerce