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May 15, 2020

THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK



SENATOR PATTY RITCHIE  
48TH DISTRICT  
OSWEGO, JEFFERSON, ST. LAWRENCE COUNTIES

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The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, S.E.  
Washington, DC 20590

RE: U.S Department of Transportation 2020 Port Infrastructure Development Program PIDP Grant  
Central New York Regional Agriculture Export Center Expansion Project

Dear Madam Secretary:

I write today in strong support of the Port of Oswego Authority's 2020 Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation for the Central New York Regional Agriculture Export Center Expansion project.

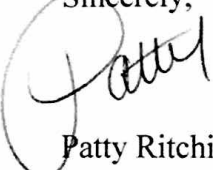
If successful in obtaining funds, the Port will be able to move forward with its most ambitious expansion project since its conception. This important project will include the following:

- The repurposing of two dome structures and half a warehouse;
- Construction of two grain towers with new dump pits for rail and truck;
- The building of a ship loading system; and
- The improvement of the conveyance systems for five storage structures

Through this project, the movement of agriculture products between the Port, Upstate New York and Connecticut will triple. Additionally, the Port will also be able to increase its export business to international markets. The increased freight volumes through the Port will also provide area farmers with better and lower cost transportation options that are also more environmentally friendly. Also important is that fact that this project will create at least 12 full-time jobs. In the short-term, it will also provide an estimated \$11.5 million—or 25,000 man days—in construction jobs.

The long-term sustainability of the Port of Oswego is vital to the success of our region and its economy. As such, I fully support the Port of Oswego in their pursuit of this important project. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Patty Ritchie  
State Senator

REPLY TO:  ALBANY OFFICE: ROOM 302, LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING, ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247 (518) 455-3438  
 JEFFERSON COUNTY OFFICE: 317 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 418, WATERTOWN, NEW YORK 13601 (315) 782-3418  
 OSWEGO COUNTY OFFICE: 46 EAST BRIDGE STREET, FIRST FLOOR, OSWEGO, NEW YORK 13126 (315) 342-2057  
 ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY OFFICE: 330 FORD STREET, OGDENSBURG, NEW YORK 13669 (315) 393-3024

E-MAIL: RITCHIE@NYSenate.GOV

WEBSITE: RITCHIE.NYSenate.GOV

