



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY
MIKE STRAIN DVM
COMMISSIONER



April 8, 2016

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

**RE: Letter of Support – Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District (MCHTD)
2016 TIGER VIII Discretionary Grant Application**

Dear Secretary Foxx:

As the Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry for the state of Louisiana, I am writing to you today in full support of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's (Port of Morgan City) application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's FY 2016 *Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) VIII Discretionary Grant Program*. I understand that the port district is requesting funds for a major infrastructure project with estimated costs totaling \$15 million; and, therefore, the port is requesting \$12 million in *TIGER* funding and will provide a non-federal match of \$3 million.

An investment by the DOT into the port's project can truly help us capitalize on the recent success the port has had in securing shipping business. I understand that they have been able to recently attract new business to the port, filling a niche for small-scale vessels. They, also, have been successful in shipping rice out of Morgan City to Haiti. I applaud their endeavors because it has caused other shipping companies to inquire about using the Port as a possible location to ship their goods and cargo; sadly, their limited dock area prevents them from fully capitalizing on their location and recent successes and restricts the amount of business that can be conducted at the port. *TIGER* funding enables the port to expand and increase the amount of business conducted at the port. *TIGER* funds will be used to design, engineer and construct over 64,000 ft² of additional dock area at the port, providing immediate economic and safety benefits.

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 2016 *TIGER* application because it improves transportation, safety and economic development in the state and nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Strain".

Mike Strain, DVM
Commissioner



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1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
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**RE: Letter of Support – Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District’s
2016 FASTLANE Grant Application**

Dear Secretary Foxx:

As the Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry for the state of Louisiana, I am writing to you today in full support of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District’s (Port of Morgan City) application to the U.S. Department of Transportation’s FY 2016 *Fostering Advancements in Shipping and Transportation for the Long-term Achievement of National Efficiencies (FASTLANE) Grant Program*. I understand that the port district is requesting funds for a major infrastructure project with estimated costs totaling \$15 million; and, therefore, the port is requesting \$9 million in FASTLANE funding and will provide a non-federal match of \$6 million.

An investment by the DOT into the port’s project can truly help us capitalize on the recent success the port has had in securing shipping business. I understand that they have been able to recently attract new business to the port, filling a niche for small-scale vessels. They, also, have been successful in shipping rice out of Morgan City to Haiti. I applaud their endeavors because it has caused other shipping companies to inquire about using the Port as a possible location to ship their goods and cargo; sadly, their limited dock area prevents them from fully capitalizing on their location and recent successes and restricts the amount of business that can be conducted at the port. FASTLANE funding enables the port to expand and increase the amount of business conducted at the port. FASTLANE funds will be used to design, engineer and construct over 64,000 ft² of additional dock area at the port, providing immediate economic and safety benefits.

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 2016 FASTLANE application because it improves transportation, safety and economic development in the state and nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Strain".

Mike Strain, DVM
Commissioner