



TOWN OF BERWICK

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Berwick, LA 70342
www.townofberwick.org

April 8, 2016

Mayor:

Louis Ratcliff

The Honorable Anthony Foxx

Mayor Protem:

Jacki Ackel

Secretary

United States Department of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE

Washington, D.C. 20590

Councilmen:

Greg Roussel

Troy Lombardo

RE: **Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's FY 2016 FASTLANE Application**
Letter of Support from Town of Berwick, Louisiana

Duval Arthur

Damon Robison

Dear Secretary Foxx:

CAO/Town Clerk:
Newell Slaughter

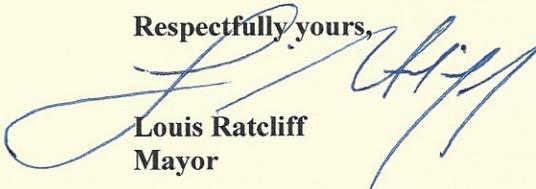
As the mayor of the town of Berwick, which is located within the jurisdiction of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District (MCHTD), I respectfully request that you accept this correspondence as a letter of support for the MCHTD's 2016 FASTLANE Grant application. As a mayor who, also, works in the private sector, I assure you that their efforts to improve and upgrade the Port's infrastructure will enhance this region's competitive edge; and, I am quite aware of the need for these improvements and how their implementation will provide the Port, this town and the surrounding region a greater opportunity to attract new jobs and increase trade between foreign and domestic ports.

Supporting this project is a "no-brainer." Over the last two years, the port has been able to attract new business; but, from my discussions with port officials, their growth is restricted and limited because of the lack of dock space to conduct business. This is why we support the port's application for FY 2016 FASTLANE funding: an expanded dock area will enable the port to bring in more business to this area, which will provide more jobs and increase economic opportunities for citizens.

As a stakeholder in the Port's success, the town of Berwick encourages the U.S. Department of Transportation to fund the Port's request for \$9,000,000 in 2016 FASTLANE funding for activities related to planning, designing, engineering and constructing port infrastructure projects. The port, who will be providing a 40% non-federal match for this project, is looking to the future; and, we congratulate them for their foresight.

Finally, Secretary Foxx, please know that I, along with my fellow town officials, stand ready to assist the Port with any future needs as related to this grant and other Port projects. I trust that the US DOT will fund the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's request for 2016 FASTLANE Grant funds.

Respectfully yours,


Louis Ratcliff
Mayor