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Municipal, Parochial and
Cultural Affairs
Natural Resources and
Environment
Transportation, Highways and
Public Works

SAM JONES State Representative ~ District 50

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 FASTLANE Grant Application**

Dear Secretary Foxx:

Please accept this correspondence as Letter of Support for the Port of Morgan City's 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. The port would like to expand their dock for business development purposes, and they are estimating the costs to total \$15 million; and, therefore, the port is requesting \$9 million in FASTLANE funding and will provide a non-federal match of \$6 million. 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.

Over the last year, they have been able to attract new business to the port, filling a niche. An investment by the USDOT into the port's project can truly help them capitalize on the recent success they have had in securing shipping business and increase their business if the project is implemented. Without a doubt, increasing business at the port will increase jobs, increase taxes collected by local, state and national taxes, and provide a new sense of purpose for the port. Unfortunately, because their dock lacks enough space, they are limited on increasing the amount of business that can be conducted at the port. FASTLANE funding will address this problem.

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 that reads "Sam Jones".

Sam Jones
District 50,
Louisiana State House of Representatives