

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20510

April 7, 2023

Rear Admiral Ann C. Phillips  
Administrator  
U.S. Maritime Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Administrator Phillips:

We write today to express our support for the Port of Astoria's application for \$24.189 million in funding to rehabilitate Pier 2 West through the Maritime Administration's Port Infrastructure and Development Program.

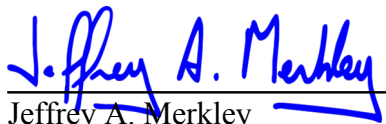
This project is focused on enhancing regional connectivity and safe, efficient infrastructure, which are critical elements for a thriving economy. The coastal Port of Astoria, Oregon, requests support for capital construction costs to replace core components of the more than 80-year-old timber dock at the Port of Astoria, where a majority of the State's commercial and recreational seafood landings occur, and multiple fish processing warehouses exist.

The Pier's structural integrity is in a critical condition, threatening safety, tenant operations, and the viability of an important hub of the regional and national seafood distribution system. This project is a regional priority and garners strong support from local and state leaders as well as economic development organizations. If funded, this project will improve port infrastructure needed to support industries of statewide significance, and is estimated to sustain more than 2,000 jobs in a rural Census tract and generate more than \$130 million in payroll wages in an economically depressed area over a ten-year period.

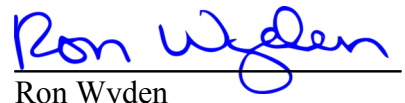
The goals of this project are consistent with the intent of the Port Infrastructure and Development program, which aims to support efficient movement of commerce through grant funding that helps strengthen, modernize, and improve our county's maritime systems and gateway ports. An investment in the Port of Astoria is an investment in Oregon's economic future.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration of the Port of Astoria's request for funding to rehabilitate Pier 2 West. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Betsy Emery, Senator Merkley's field representative, at 503-816-4509.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey A. Merkley  
United States Senator



Ron Wyden  
United States Senator

*Suzanne Bonamici*

Suzanne Bonamici

Member of Congress