

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 16, 2023

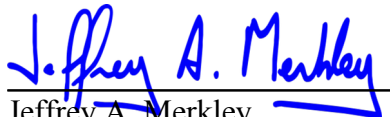
Rear Admiral Ann C. Phillips, US Navy (Ret.)  
Administrator  
U.S. Department of Transportation Maritime Administration  
West Building  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

We write in support of the Port of Newport's application to the Maritime Administration's Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP). The Port of Newport and its International Terminal is the industrial hub of the central Oregon coast and currently provides rich opportunities to spur regional economic development through the creation of new jobs and revenue opportunities for the City of Newport and the larger Yaquina Bay region. The Port is seeking funding through MARAD's PIDP program in an effort to expand and enhance capacity at the International Terminal.

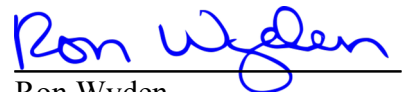
With this investment, the Port of Newport will grade nine acres of land adjacent to the International Terminal, provide secure lay-down space and purchase equipment to support the transport of goods for customers. The funds will be used specifically for permitting, grading of nine acres at the International Terminal, three acres of fencing and the purchase of two loaders. The Port of Newport is an anchor economic engine for our regional economy, and a vital keystone in Oregon's fast-growing Blue Economy sector. Expanding the capabilities of the Port of Newport will open the region up to new potential and increasingly expansive opportunities.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration of this Port Infrastructure Development Program grant application to bring much-needed improvements to the International Terminal at the Port of Newport. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to Sophia Roberts in Senator Merkley's office at 541-554-5726, or Ree Armitage in Senator Wyden's office at 503-477-0306.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey A. Merkley  
United States Senator



Ron Wyden  
United States Senator