

April 8, 2016

The Honorable Susan Collins  
Chairwoman  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing, and  
Urban Development, and Related Agencies  
SD-184 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
c/o [Heideh Shahmoradi](#)

The Honorable Jack Reed  
Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing, and  
Urban Development, and Related Agencies  
SH-125 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
c/o [Dabney Hegg](#)

The Honorable Mario Díaz-Balart  
Chairman  
House Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing, and  
Urban Development, and Related Agencies  
2358-A Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
c/o [Dena Baron](#)

The Honorable David Price  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing, and  
Urban Development, and Related Agencies  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
c/o [Joe Carlile](#)

RE: FY 2017 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Funding

Dear Chairwoman Collins, Chairman Díaz-Balart and Ranking Members Reed and Price:

As stakeholders associated with the freight industry, we are writing you in strong support of the \$1.25 billion FY 2017 funding level proposed by the President for the general fund-supported TIGER competitive grant program.

TIGER continues to be a key multimodal funding source for freight projects that are vital to rebuilding our national infrastructure while addressing multimodal transportation funding challenges and needs.

From an investment perspective, the TIGER grant program has been a stimulus in helping define our nation's freight network. The successes of TIGER grants for freight-related projects highlight the important role ports and intermodal projects play in improving our national freight system and leveraging private sector funding. The annual TIGER process and its coordinated and collaborative planning requirements in the submission of eligible freight-related projects has served as a catalyst in bringing freight stakeholders to the table—along with additional funding.

For example, since its inception in 2009, TIGER maritime projects have received more than \$524 million in federal funding while leveraging more than \$700 million in additional funding. And \$1.5 billion in highway projects have been approved that may have otherwise not been funded. The TIGER program has awarded \$1.1 billion in grant funding to 72 freight projects across the country. Other TIGER funded freight projects have also supported and enhanced the freight network that carries rail, truck and maritime cargo.

We believe continued funding related to a national freight strategy and the strengthening of freight competitive grant programs are at the heart of sustaining our competitiveness on the international stage, and strengthening of our nation's domestic economy and rate of job growth.

We urge the Committee to provide full funding for the President's FY 2017 TIGER request from the General Fund.

Sincerely,

American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA)  
International Warehouse Logistics Association  
(IWLA)  
National Customs Brokers and Forwarders  
Association of America (NCBFAA)  
Association of Metropolitan Planning  
Organizations (AMPO)  
North Atlantic Ports Association (NAPA)

The Associated General Contractors of America  
(AGC)  
Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM)  
American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)  
American Council of Engineering Companies  
(ACEC)  
American Road and Transportation Builders  
Association (ARTBA)

cc: The Honorable Thad Cochran, Chairman, Senate Appropriations Full Committee  
The Honorable Barbara Mikulski, Ranking Member, Senate Appropriations Full Committee  
The Honorable Harold Rogers, Chairman, House Appropriations Full Committee  
The Honorable Nita Lowey, Ranking Member, House Appropriations Full Committee