

ROBIN L. KELLY
2ND DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

2416 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE: (202) 225-0773
FAX: (202) 225-5681

www.RobinKelly.house.gov

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

DISTRICT OFFICES:
600 HOLIDAY PLAZA DRIVE
SUITE 505
MATTESON, IL 60443
PHONE: (708) 679-0078

1000 E. 111TH STREET
SUITE 5N
CHICAGO, IL 60628
PHONE: (773) 321-2001

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington DC, 20590

July 27, 2022

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing in support of the City of Chicago's application for Bridge Investment Program grant funding to rehabilitate the Illinois International Port Calumet River Bridges. The Calumet River is in my Congressional District.

The request is for \$144 million to rehabilitate four interconnected bascule bridges on the Calumet River. The Calumet River Bridges are vital to the local community, region and nation, as they are critical components of the Illinois International Port and the Illinois Waterway, linking Lake Michigan to the Gulf of Mexico. The Port is strategically located at the convergence of the three largest interstate highways of the nation, which makes it the most accessible port for multi-modal distribution in North America. Each bridge lifts at least 5,000 times per year, providing continuous and safe access for marine traffic to the Port and surrounding industrial uses, but resulting in aged infrastructure for freight and local surface transportation traffic. This network of bridges also serves as an essential connection for ground freight, carrying on average over 40,000 vehicles per day, approximately 3,000 of which are trucks.

Additionally, this project enhances local connectivity in a historically disadvantaged area and will complement other revitalization initiatives in South Chicago, including the current Illinois International Port District Master Plan, and the City's bicycle and pedestrian connectivity goals.

For these reasons, I ask you give this application all appropriate considerations. If you have questions, please contact my Grants Specialist, Adal Regis, at (202) 604-7514 or Adal.Regis@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,



Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress

United States Senate

July 27, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I write to express my support of the City of Chicago's application to the Bridge Investment Program grant, administered by the United States Department of Transportation, for the rehabilitation of the Illinois International Port Calumet River Bridges. Funding from this program will fund the major rehabilitation of four interconnected bridges on the Calumet River in Chicago.

The City of Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) is responsible for public way infrastructure, serving over 2.7 million residents and nearly 58 million annual visitors. As CDOT continues to modernize infrastructure across the city, it is seeking Bridge Investment Program funds to restore the vital Calumet River Bridges. These bridges are critical components of the Illinois International Port and the Illinois Waterway, linking Lake Michigan to the Gulf of Mexico. The Port is strategically located at the convergence of the three largest interstate highways of the nation, which makes it the most accessible port for multi-modal distribution in North America.

As a U.S. Senator representing Illinois and member of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, I have made it a priority to support projects that modernize Illinois' transportation and infrastructure systems. The proposed bridge upgrades will ensure continuous and safe access for marine traffic to the Port and surrounding industrial uses. Additionally, this project enhances local connectivity in the historically underserved South Chicago area and will complement other revitalization initiatives, including the current Illinois International Port District Master Plan and the City's bicycle and pedestrian connectivity goals.

Please accept this letter of support for the City of Chicago's application for the Bridge Investment Program grant for the rehabilitation of the Illinois International Port Calumet River Bridges administered by the United States Department of Transportation. In keeping with your existing rules and regulations, I urge you to give this proposal your full and fair consideration. Should you have any questions, please contact my Chicago Director, Dan McManus, at (312) 886-3506.

Sincerely,



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1304

August 4, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing regarding the City of Chicago's application for Bridge Investment Program funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation. This federal funding will enable the city to rehabilitate the Illinois International Port Calumet River Bridges.

The Calumet River Bridges are a group of four interconnected bridges that link Lake Michigan to the Gulf of Mexico. These bridges are situated at the convergence of the three largest interstate highways of the nation, which makes it the most accessible port for multi-modal distribution in North America. These bridges serve a high volume of vehicles and ships as each one is raised more than 5,000 times each year, while serving 40,000 vehicles each day.

The amount of traffic the bridges service has caused their infrastructure to age. This funding will be used by the City to continue preservaton of the bridges and maintain the connection between Lake Michigan and the Gulf of Mexico. Additionally, the funding will ensure that the bridges continue to connect South Chicago with the nation, providing crucial economic support to the surrounding area.

Please give full and fair consideration to the City of Chicago's application. If you require additional information, please contact my State Director, Clarisol Duque, at (312) 353-4952.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator

ILLINOIS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DISTRICT OFFICE:
8500 S. STONY ISLAND AVE.
CHICAGO ILLINOIS 60617
TEL: 773-783-8492

SPRINGFIELD OFFICE:
268-S STRATTON OFFICE BUILDING
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706
TEL: 217-782-8272



MARCUS C. EVANS, JR.
ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER
STATE REPRESENTATIVE 33rd DISTRICT

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• Executive
• Healthcare Availability & Access
• Medicaid Managed Care Subcommittee
• Revenue & Finance
• Workforce Development Subcommittee

July 21, 2022

Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my full support for the City of Chicago's application for Bridge Investment Program grant funding for the rehabilitation of the Illinois International Port Calumet River Bridges.

The Calumet River Bridges are vital to the local community, region and nation, as they are critical components of the Illinois International Port and the Illinois Waterway, linking Lake Michigan to the Gulf of Mexico. The Port is strategically located at the convergence of the three largest interstate highways of the nation, which makes it the most accessible port for multi-modal distribution in North America. These bridges provide continuous and safe access for marine traffic and surrounding industrial uses; however, this has resulted in deteriorating infrastructure. This network of bridges also serves as an essential connection for ground freight, carrying on average over 40,000 vehicles per day.

This project has the potential to enhance local connectivity in a historically disadvantaged area and can complement other revitalization initiatives in South Chicago, including the current Illinois International Port District Master Plan, and the City's bicycle and pedestrian connectivity goals. That is why I fully support this application and look forward to the project's successful implementation.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding my support.

All The Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. C. Evans, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Marcus C. Evans, Jr.
Assistant Majority Leader
Chairman, Committee on Labor & Commerce
Representative, 33rd District of Illinois

RECYCLED PAPER • SOYBEAN INKS

For access to Illinois General Assembly information including legislation - www.ilga.state.il.us

DISTRICT OFFICE:
1303 E. 53RD STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60615
(773) 363-8870



SPRINGFIELD OFFICE:
264-S STRATTON OFFICE BUILDING
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706
(217) 782-8121

CURTIS J. TARVER II
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
25TH DISTRICT

July 19, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my full support for the City of Chicago's application for Bridge Investment Program grant funding for the rehabilitation of the Illinois International Port Calumet River Bridges. This grant will fund the major rehabilitation of four interconnected bridges on the Calumet River.

The Calumet River Bridges are vital to the local community, region and nation, as they are critical components of the Illinois International Port and the Illinois Waterway, linking Lake Michigan to the Gulf of Mexico. The Port is strategically located at the convergence of the three largest interstate highways of the nation, which makes it the most accessible port for multi-modal distribution in North America. Each bridge lifts at least 5,000 times per year, providing continuous and safe access for marine traffic to the Port and surrounding industrial uses, but resulting in aged infrastructure for freight and local surface transportation traffic. This network of bridges also serves as an essential connection for ground freight, carrying on average over 40,000 vehicles per day, approximately 3,000 of which are trucks.

In addition to regional significance, this project enhances local connectivity in a historically disadvantaged area and will complement other revitalization initiatives in South Chicago, including the current Illinois International Port District Master Plan, and the City's bicycle and pedestrian connectivity goals.

I fully support this application and look forward to the project's successful implementation.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "CJT", written over a white background.

Curtis J. Tarver II

ILLINOIS STATE SENATE

DISTRICT OFFICE:
1509 E. 53rd St.
2nd Floor
Chicago, IL 60615
(773) 363-1996
www.SenatorRobertPeters.com



SPRINGFIELD OFFICE:
M121 Capitol Building
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-5338

ROBERT PETERS STATE SENATOR · 13th DISTRICT

July 19, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my full support for the City of Chicago's application for Bridge Investment Program grant funding for the rehabilitation of the Illinois International Port Calumet River Bridges. This grant will fund the major rehabilitation of four interconnected bridges on the Calumet River.

The Calumet River Bridges are vital not only to the local community, but to the region and nation. They are critical components of the Illinois International Port and the Illinois Waterway, linking Lake Michigan to the Gulf of Mexico. The Port is strategically located at the convergence of the three largest interstate highways of the nation, making it the most accessible port for multi-modal distribution in North America.

Each bridge lifts at least 5,000 times per year, providing continuous and safe access for marine traffic to the Port and surrounding industrial uses. This network of bridges also serves as an essential connection for ground freight, carrying on average over 40,000 vehicles per day, approximately 3,000 of which are trucks. However, this continuous use has resulted in aged infrastructure for freight and local surface transportation traffic.

Rehabilitation is necessary for the ongoing success of this area, which will ensure continued operation with service life of more than fifty years.

In addition to regional significance, this project enhances local connectivity in a historically disadvantaged area and will complement other revitalization initiatives on the South Side of Chicago, including the current Illinois International Port District Master Plan, and the City's bicycle and pedestrian connectivity goals.

Once again, I fully support this application and look forward to the project's successful implementation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Earnestly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Senator RP".

Robert Peters
Illinois State Senator, 13th District
Illinois Senate Black Caucus Chair

CHICAGO OFFICE
8233 S. PRINCETON
CHICAGO, IL 60620
(773) 933-7715



COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

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Vice Chairman, Criminal Law
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SPRINGFIELD OFFICE
307 CAPITOL BUILDING
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62706
(217) 782-3201

THE OFFICE OF
ELGIE R. SIMS, JR.
STATE SENATOR • 17th DISTRICT
Esims@SenatorElgieSims.com
www.SenatorElgieSims.com

July 29, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my full support for the City of Chicago's application for Bridge Investment Program grant funding for the rehabilitation of the Illinois International Port Calumet River Bridges. This grant will fund the major rehabilitation of four interconnected bridges on the Calumet River.

The Calumet River Bridges are vital to the local community, region and nation, as they are critical components of the Illinois International Port and the Illinois Waterway, linking Lake Michigan to the Gulf of Mexico. The Port is strategically located at the convergence of the three largest interstate highways of the nation, which makes it the most accessible port for multi-modal distribution in North America. Each bridge lifts at least 5,000 times per year, providing continuous and safe access for marine traffic to the Port and surrounding industrial uses, but resulting in aged infrastructure for freight and local surface transportation traffic. This network of bridges also serves as an essential connection for ground freight, carrying on average over 40,000 vehicles per day, approximately 3,000 of which are trucks.

In addition to regional significance, this project enhances local connectivity in a historically disadvantaged area and will complement other revitalization initiatives in South Chicago, including the current Illinois International Port District Master Plan, and the City's bicycle and pedestrian connectivity goals.

I fully support this application and look forward to the project's successful implementation.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elgie R. Sims, Jr." in a cursive script.

Elgie R. Sims, Jr.
State Senator, 17th District



CITY COUNCIL CITY OF CHICAGO

Council Chamber • Second Floor - City Hall
121 North LaSalle Street, Chicago IL 60602
City Council Phone: (312) 744 - 6800

SUSAN SADLOWSKI GARZA ALDERWOMAN, 10TH WARD

10500 S. Ewing Ave, Floor 1
Chicago, Illinois 60617
Ward Office Phone: (773) 768-8138
Ward Office Fax: (773) 768-8176

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Committee on Environmental Protection and Energy
Committee on Ethics and Good Governance
Committee on Human Relations and Health
Committee on Special Events, Cultural Affairs, and Recreation

August 3rd, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my full support for the City of Chicago's application for Bridge Investment Program grant funding for the rehabilitation of the Illinois International Port Calumet River Bridges. This grant will fund the major rehabilitation of four interconnected bridges on the Calumet River.

The Calumet River Bridges are vital to the local community, region and nation, as they are critical components of the Illinois International Port and the Illinois Waterway, linking Lake Michigan to the Gulf of Mexico. The Port is strategically located at the convergence of the three largest interstate highways of the nation, which makes it the most accessible port for multi-modal distribution in North America. Each bridge lifts at least 5,000 times per year, providing continuous and safe access for marine traffic to the Port and surrounding industrial uses, but resulting in aged infrastructure for freight and local surface transportation traffic. This network of bridges also serves as an essential connection for ground freight, carrying on average over 40,000 vehicles per day, approximately 3,000 of which are trucks.

In addition to regional significance, this project enhances local connectivity in a historically disadvantaged area and will complement other revitalization initiatives in South Chicago, including the current Illinois International Port District Master Plan, and the City's bicycle and pedestrian connectivity goals.

I fully support this application and look forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,



TONI PRECKWINKLE

PRESIDENT

**Cook County Board
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17th District

July 22, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
Washington, District of Columbia. 20590

Dear Honorable Secretary:

I am writing to express my full support for the City of Chicago's application for Bridge Investment Program grant funding for the rehabilitation of the Calumet River Bridges. This grant will fund the major rehabilitation of four interconnected bridges on the Calumet River.

The Calumet River Bridges are vital to the local community, region and nation, as they are critical components of the Illinois International Port and the Illinois Waterway, linking Lake Michigan to the Gulf of Mexico. The Port is strategically located at the convergence of the interstate highways, which makes it the most accessible port for multi-modal distribution in North America. Each bridge lifts at least 5,000 times per year, providing continuous and safe access for marine traffic to the Port and surrounding industrial uses, but resulting in aged infrastructure for freight and local surface transportation traffic. This network of bridges also serves as an essential connection for ground freight.

In addition to regional significance, this project enhances local connectivity in a historically disadvantaged area and will complement other revitalization initiatives in South Chicago, including the current Illinois International Port District Master Plan and the City's bicycle and pedestrian connectivity goals.

We are excited about the opportunity to ensure safe connectivity and access, and for the continued investment in our local, regional and national infrastructure and economic vitality.

Cook County is an active partner on other improvements within the IIPD, including the reconstruction of Butler Drive and Stony Island Avenue in the South District. Together we have secured County Motor Fuel Tax Funds, State of Illinois Economic Development Program Funds, City of Chicago TIF Funds, and federal Competitive Freight Program funds for this \$14 Million project targeted for construction in 2024. Investment in the IIPD facilities are worth making—this Port provides direct connections to maritime, rail, and truck movements, and will benefit the ports operations and enhance competitiveness in the region.

Page 2

Re: Chicago DOT Calumet Bridges BIP Grant
Letter of Support

I fully support this application and look forward to the project's successful implementation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (312) 603-1601 or my e-mail address jennifer.killen@cookcountyil.gov.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer 'Sis' Killen". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Jennifer 'Sis' Killen, P.E., PTOE
Superintendent
Department of Transportation and Highways
Cook County, Illinois



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

433 West Van Buren Street
Suite 450
Chicago, IL 60607

312-454-0400
cmap.illinois.gov

August 3, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) is pleased to support the Chicago Department of Transportation's (CDOT) Bridge Investment Program application for major bridge rehabilitations over the Calumet River. This project supports the region's critical freight infrastructure through the rehabilitation of the Ewing Avenue, 95th Street, 100th Street, and 106th Street Bridges over the Calumet River on Chicago's South Side.

As the comprehensive regional planning organization of northeastern Illinois, CMAP is committed to supporting strategic investments that will advance equity, improve safety, and maintain the region's status as North America's freight hub. This project would improve the flow of freight at the Illinois International Port District's Iroquois Landing, which serves as an essential supply chain link for the national, state, and regional freight transportation systems. These bridge rehabilitations will also support critical connections between Chicago's South Side and the region, specifically the South Chicago and East Side neighborhoods, two of the region's highest-need communities.

Once again, CMAP strongly supports CDOT's Bridge Investment Program application for bridge rehabilitations over the Calumet River. Supporting the rehabilitation of these bridges will lead to a greater movement of freight through the country's freight hub, enhance supply chain resilience, and provide safer mobility options for residents along Chicago's Calumet Area.

Sincerely,

Erin Aleman
Executive Director

TM:EA

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Leanne Redden
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Executive Director

Erin Aleman

**ILLINOIS INTERNATIONAL
PORT DISTRICT**

3600 E. 95th Street
95th and the Lakefront
Chicago, IL 60617-5193
773-646-4400
iipd@iipd.com



August 4, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my full support for the City of Chicago's application for Bridge Investment Program grant funding for the rehabilitation of the Illinois International Port Calumet River Bridges. This grant will fund the major rehabilitation of four interconnected bridges on the Calumet River.

The Calumet River Bridges are vital to the local community, region and nation, as they are critical components of the Illinois International Port and the Illinois Waterway, linking Lake Michigan to the Gulf of Mexico. The Port is strategically located at the convergence of the three largest interstate highways of the nation, which makes it the most accessible port for multi-modal distribution in North America. Each bridge lifts at least 5,000 times per year, providing continuous and safe access for marine traffic to the Port and surrounding industrial uses, but resulting in aged infrastructure for freight and local surface transportation traffic. This network of bridges also serves as an essential connection for ground freight, carrying on average over 40,000 vehicles per day, approximately 3,000 of which are trucks.

In addition to regional significance, this project enhances local connectivity in a historically disadvantaged area and will complement other revitalization initiatives in South Chicago, including the current Illinois International Port District Master Plan, and the City's bicycle and pedestrian connectivity goals.

We are excited about the opportunity to ensure safe connectivity and access, and for the continued investment in our local, regional and national infrastructure and economic vitality.

Sincerely,

ILLINOIS INTERNATIONAL PORT DISTRICT

Erik A. Varela
Executive Director



Port of Chicago
Foreign Trade Zone No. 22

Metropolitan Planning Council

July 22, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express the Metropolitan Planning Council's full support for the City of Chicago's application for Bridge Investment Program grant funding for the rehabilitation of the Illinois International Port Calumet River Bridges. This grant will fund the major rehabilitation of four interconnected bridges on the Calumet River.


The Calumet River Bridges are vital to the local community, region and nation, as they are critical components of the Illinois International Port and the Illinois Waterway, linking Lake Michigan to the Gulf of Mexico. The Port is strategically located at the convergence of the three largest interstate highways of the nation, which makes it the most accessible port for multi-modal distribution in North America. Each bridge lifts at least 5,000 times per year, providing continuous and safe access for marine traffic to the Port and surrounding industrial uses, but resulting in aged infrastructure for freight and local surface transportation traffic. This network of bridges also serves as an essential connection for ground freight, carrying on average over 40,000 vehicles per day, approximately 3,000 of which are trucks.

In addition to regional significance, this project enhances local connectivity in a historically disadvantaged area and will complement other revitalization initiatives in South Chicago, including the current Illinois International Port District Master Plan, and the City's bicycle and pedestrian connectivity goals.

We are excited about the opportunity to ensure safe connectivity and access, and for the continued investment in our local, regional and national infrastructure and economic vitality. This project aligns with MPC's mission to foster a sustainable, equitable and prosperous region.

I fully support this application and look forward to the project's successful implementation.

Sincerely,



Darlene Oliver Hightower, J.D.
President and CEO

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Executive Advisors

Wilfried Aulbur
Roland Berger

Carol L. Bernick
Polished Nickel Capital
Management LLC

John Bucksbaum
Bucksbaum Retail
Properties, LLC

Jonathan C. Bunge
Quinn Emanuel Urquhart &
Sullivan, LLP

David Casper
BMO Financial Group

Robert M. Chapman
CenterPoint Properties

Keating Crown
Sterling Bay

Marsha Cruzan
U.S. Bank

J. Michael Drew
Structured Development, LLC

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William Blair & Company

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CIBC U.S.

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PNC Illinois

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AptarGroup, Inc.

Edward J. Wehmer
Wintrust Financial Corp.

Theodore Weldon
Lendlease

President & CEO

Darlene Oliver Hightower •

Executive Committee •
General Counsel ••

35 E. Wacker, Suite 1760
Chicago, IL 60601
312-554-0900
delta-institute.org
delta@delta-institute.org



August 1, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express the full support of Delta Institute for the City of Chicago's application for Bridge Investment Program grant funding for the rehabilitation of the Illinois International Port Calumet River Bridges. This grant will fund the major rehabilitation of four interconnected bridges on the Calumet River, essential infrastructure for our region.

The Calumet River Bridges are vital to the local community, region and nation, as they are critical components of the Illinois International Port and the Illinois Waterway, linking Lake Michigan to the Gulf of Mexico. The Port is strategically located at the convergence of the three largest interstate highways of the nation, which makes it the most accessible port for multi-modal distribution in North America. Each bridge lifts at least 5,000 times per year, providing continuous and safe access for marine traffic to the Port and surrounding industrial uses, but resulting in aged infrastructure for freight and local surface transportation traffic. This network of bridges also serves as an essential connection for ground freight, carrying on average over 40,000 vehicles per day, approximately 3,000 of which are trucks. In addition to regional significance, this project enhances local connectivity in a historically underserved area and will complement other redevelopment initiatives in South Chicago, including the current Illinois International Port District Master Plan, and the City's bicycle and pedestrian connectivity goals.

We are excited about the opportunity to ensure safe connectivity and access, and for the continued investment in our local, regional, and national infrastructure and long-term economic vitality. Delta Institute has been a consistent 501c3 partner of both the City of Chicago and the Illinois International Port District, and this request directly dovetails with our years of economic and environmental development in the Calumet Region.

We fully support this application and look forward to the project's successful implementation, as we collectively work toward redevelopment of these economic assets within Chicago, Illinois, and the Great Lakes region. Please contact me at any time at wschleizer@delta-institute.org or at 312-554-0900 ext. 24 at any time about this application, our support, and our partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Schleizer".

William (Bill) Schleizer
CEO