Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515  

December 13, 2019  

Mr. George Riccardo  
Director of Government Affairs  
Federal Railroad Administration  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590  

Re: Port of Palm Beach FY19 Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement (CRISI) Grant Application  
Funding Opportunity FR-CRS-19-001  
Tracking Number GRANT12958618  

Dear Mr. Riccardo:  

As Members of Congress representing Palm Beach County, we write in support of the application submitted by the Port of Palm Beach to CRISI Grant Program. The Port is requesting $1.2 million for its Track 2 Intermodal Rail Facility Expansion Project, which will fund the project’s required environmental review process under the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and 30 percent design criteria package. 

The Port of Palm Beach is an important economic driver in our rapidly growing region. As a major connector to the Caribbean and other international markets, we understand that the Port’s grant application will support a crucial step for growing its capacity. The Port’s executive leadership has informed us that all planning projects under the first phase of its expansion project (Track 1) has been completed over the past two years, and the project is now ready to proceed to the next phase. The Port intends to eventually increase its intermodal rail capacity from 44,000 20-foot-equivalent unit (TEUs) per year to 95,000 TEUs to support a projected 500,000 TEU throughput by 2031. 

We greatly appreciate your continued commitment to rail improvements nationwide and ask that you give the Port of Palm Beach’s FY19 CRISI application full and fair consideration consistent with applicable statutes and regulations. We respectfully request to be kept apprised of your decision in this matter.  

Sincerely,  

Alcee L. Hastings  
Member of Congress  

Lois Frankel  
Member of Congress  

Ted Deutch  
Member of Congress  

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