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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0918**

July 21, 2020

The Honorable Elaine Chao  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
100 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

I am writing to you to express my support for the Port of Palm Beach's application for a \$13.2 million Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) grant. According to the Port of Palm Beach, this proposal will double the current capacity of containers of the Port's intermodal rail by constructing a new intermodal rail transfer facility that will replace the current one.

According to the Port of Palm Beach, this new intermodal rail transfer facility will enhance efficiency, reliability and safety. Currently, its intermodal rail transfer facility is at maximum capacity. If awarded the PIDP grant, the funding would be used by the Port of Palm Beach to expand its facility by 116 percent. Additionally, the grant would be used to add track to the intermodal container transfer facility and to build new marine terminal access track in order to connect the facility with the Florida East Coast Railway mainline.

With the projected growth from its capacity of 44,000 twenty foot equivalent containers (TEUs) per year to 500,00 TEUs per year over the next decade and it's crucial location as a connection to Caribbean nations, the Port of Palm Beach plays a crucial role in American trade. This project is projected to attract new local jobs to the area and increase local economic growth.

Thank you for your careful review, and I request that you give the Port of Palm Beach's grant application your full and fair consideration.

Sincerely,



Brian Mast  
Member of Congress