

BILL CASSIDY  
LOUISIANA

DC OFFICE:  
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BATON ROUGE OFFICE  
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BATON ROUGE, LA 70808  
(225) 929-7711

## United States Senate

COMMITTEE  
APPROPRIATIONS  
HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

May 29, 2018

The Honorable Elaine Chao  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE  
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Dear Secretary Chao:

It has recently come to my attention that the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District is applying for funding from the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant program. They are requesting \$12 million to extend and enhance their dock. At a total cost of \$15 million, the Port will provide a \$3 million non-federal match.

The Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District plans to use the funds to design, engineer, and construct over 64,000 square feet of dock area to the port. The District's port lies on the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) near the Atchafalaya River and the GIWW Alternate Route between Morgan City and Port Allen. The additional dock area would serve the increased traffic generated by new businesses that recently located at the port along with additional shipping expected from the expansion of the Panama Canal. As a coastal port, the District provides a safe harbor during tropical events.

I am thankful for the Department of Transportation's consideration in securing funding for this worthwhile project. I ask that you please keep my office informed on the progress of this proposal as well as when a final decision has been made regarding this grant. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Michael Eby in my Baton Rouge Office at (225) 929-7711.

Sincerely,

*Bill Cassidy, M.D.*

Bill Cassidy, M.D.  
United States Senator

BC/ME

JOHN KENNEDY

LOUISIANA

SUITE SR-383  
RUSSELL BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-4623

## United States Senate

COMMITTEES  
APPROPRIATIONS  
BANKING, HOUSING, AND  
URBAN AFFAIRS  
BUDGET  
JUDICIARY  
SMALL BUSINESS AND  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

June 7, 2018

The Honorable Elaine Chao  
Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

I am writing to you today to respectfully ask that you consider the U.S. Department of Transportation's FY 2018 *Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development* (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grant Program application submitted by the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District. The total estimated project cost is \$15 million and the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District is requesting \$12 million in TIGER funding and will provide a non-federal match of \$3 million. These funds will be used to design, engineer, and construct over 64,000 square feet of additional dock area at the Port of Morgan City (PMC).

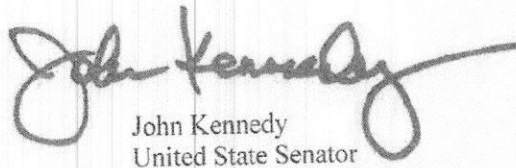
The project will enhance their ability to attract trade and business and improve economic competitiveness by preparing PMC for an expected increase in trade due to the Panama Canal expansion project. In addition, since the port is considered a coastal port, the improvements will provide a safe harbor for vessels during tropical systems.

They have recently attracted new business to the port, filling a niche for small-scale vessels; this success caused several shipping companies to inquire about using the port as a possible shipping location. Unfortunately, the port is limited in the amount of business they can conduct due to a lack in dock area, although they have the physical capacity to expand.

The funding of this request is expected to produce to improve transportation, safety, and economic development in the region and nation. I respectfully ask that you give your careful attention and consideration to this proposal.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



John Kennedy  
United State Senator

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-1803

June 1, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**RE: Letter of Support – Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District  
FY 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant Application**

Dear Secretary Chao:

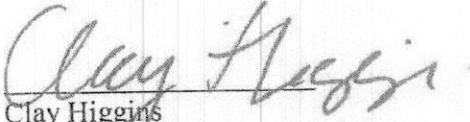
I am writing to you today in support of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's application for the 2018 *Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development* (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grant Program. The port district is requesting funds for a major infrastructure project at that is vital to region and nation.

As you may know, the port is requesting \$12 million in BUILD funding to supplement the project's total cost of \$15 million; with the port providing a non-federal match for the remaining \$3 million. These funds will be used to design, engineer and construct over 64,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of additional dock area at the port. This additional space will increase the port's ability to attract new business. Currently, the port is limited in the amount of business they can engage in due to a lack infrastructure. The port currently has in its possession the space to expand; and, fully-funding their request will have immediate economic and safety benefits.

This project will improve the port's economic competitiveness and, allow it to align with several local, state and federal studies and comprehensive plans. The endeavor is also compliant with BUILD guidelines, and will allow the port to prepare for an expected increase in trade due to the Panama Canal expansion project. Further, since the port is considered a coastal port, the improvements will provide a "safe harbor" for vessels during tropical events.

I am in full-support of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's FY 2018 BUILD application because it improves transportation, safety and economic development in the region and nation. I respectfully ask that you give your full consideration to their proposal.

Respectfully,

  
Clay Higgins  
Member of Congress

Office of the Lieutenant Governor  
State of Louisiana

BILLY NUNGESSER  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



P.O. Box 44243  
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70804-4243  
(225) 342-7009

June 1, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**RE: Letter of Support – Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District (MCHTD)  
FY 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant Application**

Dear Secretary Chao:

As the Lieutenant Governor of the state of Louisiana, I am writing to you today in full support of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's FY 2017 *Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development* (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grant Program application to the U.S. Department of Transportation. I understand that the port district is requesting funds for a major infrastructure project with estimated costs totaling \$15 million; and, therefore, the port is requesting \$12 million in BUILD funding and will provide a non-federal match of \$3 million.

Since I am familiar with the site and region, I can attest to the importance of the port to the local, state and national economies because of the port's ability to bring in new business to this region. While the state has provided the port with financial assistance in the past through state capital outlay funding, an investment by the USDOT through its FY 18 BUILD program can truly help us capitalize on the success the port has had in securing export/import business. I understand that they have been able to recently attract new business to the port, filling a niche for small-scale vessels. I applaud their endeavors because it has caused other shipping companies to inquire about using the Port as a possible location to ship their goods and cargo; sadly, their limited dock area prevents them from fully capitalizing on their location and recent successes and restricts the amount of business that can be conducted at the port. BUILD funding will enable the port to expand and increase the amount of business conducted at the port. BUILD funds will be used to design, engineer and construct over 64,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of additional dock area at the port, providing immediate economic and safety benefits.

In closing, thank you for your consideration in this matter, Madam Secretary; and, once, again, please know that I am in full-support of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's FY 2018 BUILD application because it improves transportation, safety and economic development in the state and nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Billy Nungesser".

Billy Nungesser  
Lieutenant Governor



Office of the Lieutenant Governor  
State of Louisiana

BILLY NUNGESSER  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



P.O. Box 44243  
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70804-4243  
(225) 342-7009

June 1, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**RE: Letter of Support – Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District (MCHTD)  
FY 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant Application**

Dear Secretary Chao:

As the Lieutenant Governor of the state of Louisiana, I am writing to you today in full support of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's FY 2017 *Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development* (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grant Program application to the U.S. Department of Transportation. I understand that the port district is requesting funds for a major infrastructure project with estimated costs totaling \$15 million; and, therefore, the port is requesting \$12 million in BUILD funding and will provide a non-federal match of \$3 million.

Since I am familiar with the site and region, I can attest to the importance of the port to the local, state and national economies because of the port's ability to bring in new business to this region. While the state has provided the port with financial assistance in the past through state capital outlay funding, an investment by the USDOT through its FY 18 BUILD program can truly help us capitalize on the success the port has had in securing export/import business. I understand that they have been able to recently attract new business to the port, filling a niche for small-scale vessels. I applaud their endeavors because it has caused other shipping companies to inquire about using the Port as a possible location to ship their goods and cargo; sadly, their limited dock area prevents them from fully capitalizing on their location and recent successes and restricts the amount of business that can be conducted at the port. BUILD funding will enable the port to expand and increase the amount of business conducted at the port. BUILD funds will be used to design, engineer and construct over 64,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of additional dock area at the port, providing immediate economic and safety benefits.

In closing, thank you for your consideration in this matter, Madam Secretary; and, once, again, please know that I am in full-support of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's FY 2018 BUILD application because it improves transportation, safety and economic development in the state and nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Billy Nungesser", is written over a horizontal line.

Billy Nungesser  
Lieutenant Governor

WHN/lis

WWW.CRT.LA.GOV



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY  
MIKE STRAIN DVM  
COMMISSIONER



June 1, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Letter of Support – Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District (MCHTD)  
2018 BUILD Discretionary Grant Application

Dear Secretary Chao: *Elaine*

As the Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry for the state of Louisiana, I am writing to you today in full-support of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's FY 2018 *Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development* (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grant Program. I understand that the port district is requesting funds for a major infrastructure project with estimated costs totaling \$15 million; and, therefore, the port is requesting \$12 million in BUILD funding and will provide a non-federal match of \$3 million.

An investment by the DOT into the port's project can truly help us capitalize on the recent success the port has had in securing shipping business. I understand that they had attracted new business to the port, filling a niche for small-scale vessels, by importing salt from Mexico and successfully exporting rice to Haiti. I applaud their endeavors because it has caused other shipping companies to inquire about using the Port as a possible location to ship their goods and cargo. Unfortunately, their limited dock area prevents them from fully-capitalizing on their location and recent successes and restricts the amount of business that can be conducted at the port. BUILD funding enables the port to expand and increase the amount of business conducted at the port. BUILD funds will be used to design, engineer and construct over 64,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of additional dock area at the port, providing immediate economic and safety benefits.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Please know that I am in full-support of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's FY 2018 BUILD application because it improves transportation, safety and economic development in the state and nation.

Sincerely,



Mike Strain, DVM  
Commissioner

## LOUISIANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

733 Main Street  
Franklin, LA 70538  
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Phone: 337.828.7778  
Fax: 337.828.4511



Natural Resources and  
Environment  
Retirement  
Transportation, Highways and  
Public Works  
Atchafalaya Basin Program  
Oversight Committee

**SAM JONES**

State Representative ~ District 50

June 26, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**RE: Letter of Support – Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District  
FY 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant Application**

Dear Secretary Chao:

Please accept this correspondence as Letter of Support for the Port of Morgan City's application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's FY 2018 *Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development* (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grant Program. The port would like to expand their dock for business development purposes, and they are estimating the costs to total \$15 million; therefore, the port is requesting \$12 million in FY 18 BUILD funding and will provide a non-federal match of \$3 million. FY 18 BUILD funds will be used to design, engineer and construct over 64,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of additional dock area at the port, providing immediate economic and safety benefits.

Over the last year, they have been able to attract new business to the port, filling a niche. An investment by the USDOT into the port's project can truly help them capitalize on the recent success they have had in securing shipping business and increase their business if the project is implemented. Without a doubt, increasing business at the port will increase jobs, increase taxes collected by local, state and national taxes, and provide a new sense of purpose for the port. Unfortunately, because their dock lacks enough space, they are limited on increasing the amount of business that can be conducted at the port. BUILD funding will address this problem.

In closing, thank you for your consideration in this matter, Madam Secretary; and, once, again, please know that I am in full-support of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's FY 2018 BUILD application because it improves transportation, safety and economic development in the state and nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sam Jones", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sam Jones  
State Representative  
District 50  
SJ/sj



# LOUISIANA STATE SENATE

SENATE DISTRICT OFFICE  
600 Main Street  
Suite 1  
Franklin, LA 70538  
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Office: (985) 850-2738  
Fax: (337) 828-9108  
E-mail: allainb@legis.la.gov



COMMITTEES:  
Finance, Vice Chairman  
Select Committee on Coastal Restoration  
and Flood Control, Chairman  
Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture  
and Rural Development  
Commerce, Consumer Protection  
and International Affairs  
Natural Resources  
Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget

**R.L. "BRET" ALLAIN II**  
Senator - District 21

June 1, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**RE: Letter of Support – Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District (MCHTD)  
FY 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant Application**

Dear Secretary Chao:

Please accept this correspondence as Letter of Support for the Port of Morgan City's application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's FY 2018 *Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development* (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grant Program. The port would like to expand their dock for business development purposes, and they are estimating the costs to total \$15 million; and, therefore, the port is requesting \$12 million in BUILD funding and will provide a non-federal match of \$3 million. BUILD funds will be used to design, engineer and construct over 64,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of additional dock area at the port, providing immediate economic and safety benefits.

A few years ago, they attracted new business to the port, filling a niche; but, unfortunately that enterprise ceased due to a lack of space at the port's dock. An investment by the USDOT into the port's project can truly help them recapitalize on the recent success they had in securing shipping business and increase their business if the project is implemented because the project would result in additional space and in an enhancement of the port's dock area. Without a doubt, increasing business at the port will increase jobs, increase taxes collected by local, state and national taxes, and provide a new sense of purpose for the port. Unfortunately, because their dock lacks enough space, they are limited on increasing the amount of business that can be conducted at the port. BUILD funding will address this problem.

In closing, thank you for your consideration in this matter, Madam Secretary; and, once, again, please know that I am in full-support of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's FY 2018 BUILD application because it improves transportation, safety and economic development in the state and nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bret Allain", is written over a horizontal line.

R.L. "Bret" Allain II  
State Senator  
Senate District 21



# LOUISIANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



302 School St.  
Houma, LA 70360  
Phone: (985) 858-2967  
Fax: (985) 858-2968  
Email: amedeeb@legis.la.gov

**BERYL A. AMEDEE**  
State Representative ~ District 51

Appropriations  
Education  
Labor & Industrial Relations  
Atchafalaya Basin Program  
Oversight Committee  
Joint Legislative Committee  
on the Budget

June 1, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**RE: Letter of Support – Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District (MCHTD)  
FY 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant Application**

Dear Secretary Chao:

Please accept this correspondence as Letter of Support for the Port of Morgan City's application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's FY 2018 *Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development* (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grant Program. The port would like to expand their dock for business development purposes, and they are estimating the costs to total \$15 million; and, therefore, the port is requesting \$12 million in FY 18 BUILD funding and will provide a non-federal match of \$3 million. BUILD funds will be used to design, engineer and construct over 64,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of additional dock area at the port, providing immediate economic and safety benefits.

Over the last year, they have been able to attract new business to the port, filling a niche. An investment by the USDOT into the port's project can truly help them capitalize on the recent success they have had in securing shipping business and increase their business if the project is implemented. Without a doubt, increasing business at the port will increase jobs, increase taxes collected by local, state and national taxes, and provide a new sense of purpose for the port. Unfortunately, because their dock lacks enough space, they are limited on increasing the amount of business that can be conducted at the port. BUILD funding will address this problem.

In closing, thank you for your consideration in this matter, Madam Secretary; and, once, again, please know that I am in full-support of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's FY 2018 BUILD application because it improves transportation, safety and economic development in the state and nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Beryl A. Amedée", is written over a horizontal line.

Beryl A. Amedée  
State Representative, District 51  
BAA/cdp

# ST. MARY PARISH GOVERNMENT

**DAVID HANAGRIFF, PRESIDENT**

FIFTH FLOOR - COURTHOUSE  
FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA 70538-6198

HENRY "BO" LAGRANGE  
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE  
PAUL J. GOVERNALE, CPA, CGFM

DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL  
JILLIAN E. FISHER

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ZONING  
TAMMY LUKE

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS  
GEORGE MIKHAEL, P.E., MSCE

DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
FRANK G. FINK

OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS  
DUVAL H. ARTHUR, JR., LEM

FRANKLIN  
(337) 828-4100

FAX (337) 828-4092

E-mail: [admin@stmaryparishla.gov](mailto:admin@stmaryparishla.gov)

OFFICE HOURS  
8:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.  
1:00 P.M. TO 4:30 P.M.

June 1, 2018

The Honorable Elaine Chao  
Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**RE: Letter of Support for Morgan City Harbor and Terminal  
District's FY 2018 BUILD Transportation Grant Application**

Dear Secretary Chao:

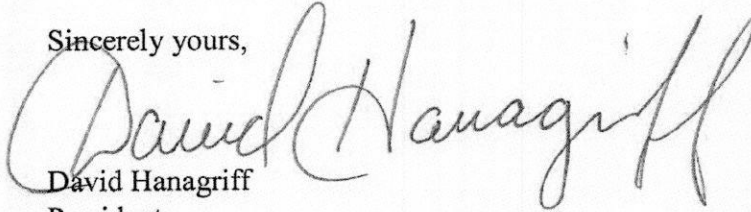
As the president of St. Mary Parish, Louisiana, which includes the entire jurisdiction of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District (MCHTD), I respectfully request that the USDOT accept this correspondence as a letter of support for the MCHTD's 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant Program application. As someone who is a businessman and is currently serving as the executive officer for St. Mary Parish, I know that the Port District's efforts to improve and upgrade the Port's infrastructure will provide our parish a greater opportunity to attract new jobs and increase trade.

I am aware that over the last three years, the port has attempted to attract new businesses; but, their growth is limited because of the lack of dock space that can accommodate in additional vessels; and, therefore, I, on behalf of St. Mary Parish, support the port's application for FY 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant Program funding. An expanded dock area will enable the port to berth more vessels simultaneously and provide more dockside space to store cargo containers safely.

As a stakeholder in the Port's success, St. Mary Parish encourages the US DOT to fund the Port's request for \$12,000,000 in 2018 BUILD funding for activities related to planning, designing, engineering and constructing an expanded dock and laydown area. The port, who will be providing a 20% non-federal match for this project, is looking to the future; and, I congratulate them for their foresight.

Finally, Secretary Chao, please know that St. Mary Parish's success in intertwined with the port's success; and, we all want to see the port succeed in their endeavors. Consequently, we stand together in supporting the Port District's grant request; and, therefore, I hope that the US DOT will see fit to fund the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's request for 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant Program funds.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "David Hanagriff". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

David Hanagriff

President

St. Mary Parish

[ghanagriff@stmaryparishla.gov](mailto:ghanagriff@stmaryparishla.gov)

DH/rml

# ST. MARY PARISH GOVERNMENT

**DAVID HANAGRIFF, PRESIDENT**

FIFTH FLOOR - COURTHOUSE

FRANKLIN, LOUISIANA 70538-6198

June 1, 2018

HENRY "BO" LAGRANGE  
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE  
PAUL J. GOVERNALE, CPA, CGFM

United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL  
JILLIAN E. FISHER

**RE: Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's FY 2018 BUILD Application  
St. Mary Parish Economic Development Department's Letter of Support**

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ZONING  
TAMMY LUKE

Dear Secretary Chao:

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS  
GEORGE MIKHAEL, P.E., MSCE

The Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District is requesting funding from the FY 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant program to expand and enhance its dock along the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, near its intersection with the Atchafalaya River in south-central Louisiana. Please know that I, as the director of the St. Mary Parish Economic Development Department, support their application and respectfully ask that the USDOT fully-fund the Port District's funding request.

DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
FRANK G. FINK

As a stakeholder in the Port's success, St. Mary Parish encourages the US DOT to fund the Port's request for \$12,000,000 in FY 2018 BUILD funding for activities related to "planning, designing, engineering and constructing" an expanded dock and laydown area. The results of this project will increase the amount of dock space enabling additional vessels to load and unload cargo concurrently and provide more dockside space to store cargo containers, thus saving costs in labor, time and fuel, just to name a few benefits. Without any hesitation, I fully-support the port's application for FY 2018 BUILD funding because the results of the project will lead to a greater opportunity to attract new jobs and an increase in trade.

OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS  
DUVAL H. ARTHUR, JR., LEM

FRANKLIN  
(337) 828-4100

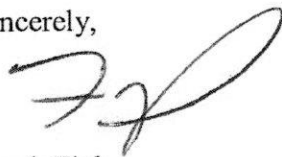
FAX (337) 828-4092

E-mail: [admin@stmaryparishla.gov](mailto:admin@stmaryparishla.gov)

OFFICE HOURS  
8:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.  
1:00 P.M. TO 4:30 P.M.

In closing, Secretary Chao, thank you very much for your consideration in this matter; and, please know that this parish's success is linked to the port's success; and, we are united in supporting the Port District's grant request.

Sincerely,



Frank Fink  
Director of Economic Development  
St. Mary Parish Government  
[ffink@stmaryparishla.gov](mailto:ffink@stmaryparishla.gov)

FGF/rml



**FRANK P. GRIZZAFFI, III**  
MAYOR

P. O. Box 1218  
Morgan City, Louisiana 70381  
Telephone: 985-385-1770  
Fax: 985-384-7519  
TDD: 985-385-1770  
E-mail: g.bonner@cityofmc.com



**COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

TIMMY T. HYMEL - District 1  
MARK STEPHENS - District 2  
RON BIAS - District 3  
JAMES FONTENOT - District 4  
LOUIS J. TAMPORELLO, JR. - District 5

June 1, 2018

The Honorable Elaine Chao, Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**RE: Letter of Support for Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District (MCHTD)  
2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant Application**

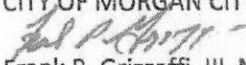
Dear Secretary Chao:

Please accept this correspondence as a Letter of Support for the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant application. As the mayor of the City of Morgan City, I can assure you that their efforts in improving and upgrading the Port's infrastructure will enhance this region's competitive edge. As a businessman-turned elected official, I am quite aware of the need for these improvements and how their implementation will provide the Port and this city an opportunity to take the lead in attracting new jobs and increase trade between foreign and domestic ports.

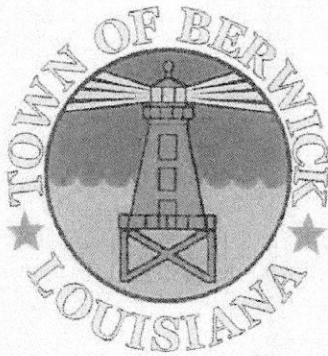
As stakeholders in the Port's success, the City of Morgan City and I encourage the U.S. Department of Transportation to fund the Port's request for \$12,000,000 in 2018 BUILD funding for activities related to planning, designing, engineering and constructing port infrastructure projects. The eventual upgrading of the port facilities, specifically its dock, will benefit our city by providing new jobs and improving the port's ability to compete with other ports by bringing in new business.

Also, I understand that the port will provide a 20% local match, even though they do not have to do so since they will be applying as a Rural Area. The District is to be congratulated for agreeing to provide the 20% local match for the grant request. Doing so illustrates the sincere commitment of the Port Commission to improving its facilities.

Finally, please know that I, along with my fellow city officials, stand ready to assist the Port with this project, as well as other Port projects. I trust that the US DOT will see fit to fund the port's request for 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant funds.

Very truly yours,  
CITY OF MORGAN CITY  
  
Frank P. Grizzaffi, III, Mayor

FG/ggb



## TOWN OF BERWICK

Phone: (985) 384-8858 • P. O. Box 486 • Fax: (985) 384-8873  
Berwick, LA 70342  
[www.townofberwick.org](http://www.townofberwick.org)

June 1, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's FY 2018 BUILD Application  
Letter of Support from Town of Berwick, Louisiana

Dear Secretary Chao:

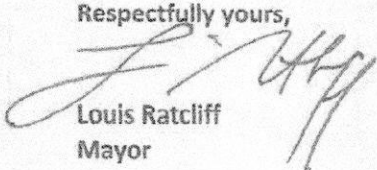
As the mayor of the town of Berwick, which is located within the jurisdiction of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District (MCHTD), I respectfully request that you accept this Letter of Support for the MCHTD's FY 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant application. As a mayor who, also, works in the private sector, I assure you that their efforts to improve and upgrade the Port's infrastructure will enhance this region's competitive edge; and, I am quite aware of the need for these improvements and how their construction will provide the Port, this town and the surrounding region a greater opportunity to attract new jobs and increase trade between foreign and domestic ports.

Supporting this project is a "no-brainer." A few years ago, the port attracted a new business; but, from my discussions with port officials, their growth was restricted and limited because of the lack of dock space to conduct business; and, the business had to cease operations at the Port of Morgan City. This is why the Town of Berwick supports the port's application for FY 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary funding. An expanded dock area will enable the port to attract and retain additional businesses to this area, providing more jobs and increasing economic opportunities for citizens.

As a stakeholder in the Port's success, the town of Berwick encourages the U.S. Department of Transportation to fund the Port's request for \$12,000,000 in 2018 BUILD funding for activities related to planning, designing, engineering and constructing port infrastructure projects. The port, who will be providing a 20% non-federal match for this project, is looking to the future; and, we congratulate them for their foresight.

Finally, Secretary Chao, please know that the Town of Berwick stand ready to assist the Port with any future needs as related to this grant and other Port projects. I trust that the US DOT will fund the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's request for FY 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant funds.

Respectfully yours,

  
Louis Ratcliff  
Mayor



## Planters Rice Mill, LLC

403 S. Washington  
Abbeville, LA 70510  
Phone: 337-898-3056  
Fax: 337-893-1122

June 1, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**RE: Letter of Support -- Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District (MCHTD)  
FY 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant Application**

Dear Secretary Chao:

As the Plant Manager of Planters Rice Mill, LLC, based in Abbeville, Louisiana, please accept this "Letter of Support" for the Port of Morgan City's application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's FY 2018 *Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development* (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grant Program. I understand that the port would like to expand and enhance their dock for business development purposes, and this would help my company and other companies greatly. Also, I understand that the estimated total costs amount to \$15 million; and, therefore, the port is requesting \$12 million in BUILD funding and will provide a non-federal match of \$3 million. To implement this project, BUILD funds will be used to design, engineer and construct over 64,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of additional dock area at the port, providing immediate economic and safety benefits. I can attest that this is true!

Recently, we have been working with Port officials to export rice to Haiti, and my company had a great deal of money and labor invested in this project. We would like to expand, but we realize that we are limited because of the lack of improved property. We are confident that if the port had more linear footage along the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway and more room to safely transload our cargo, we could conduct more business, thus increasing the number of jobs and economic development investment, not only in Morgan City, Louisiana, but in other parts of the country and world.

In closing, thank you for your consideration in this matter, Madam Secretary; and, once, again, please know that I am in full-support of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's FY 2018 BUILD application because it improves transportation, safety and economic development.

Sincerely,

Brent Demarcay  
Plant Manager  
Planters Rice Mill LLC

### QUALITY STATEMENT

*At Planters Rice Mill, to make customer service and product quality our top priorities.*



# *Central Boat Rentals, Inc.*

## *"Barge Specialists"*

May 30, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**RE: Letter of Support for Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District (MCHTD)  
FY 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant Application**

Dear Secretary Chao:

As a local business owner that collaborates with the Port of Morgan City and their tenants, I understand that they are submitting a proposal to the U.S. DOT for the FY 2018 *Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development* (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grants Program. The project costs \$15 million; and, so, the port is requesting \$12 million in BUILD funding and will provide a local match of \$3 million.

From my discussions with Port officials, it is my understanding that these *BUILD* funds will be used to design, engineer and construct over 64,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of additional dock space and cargo laydown area at their facility. As someone who needs access to their dock, I wholeheartedly support this project because it would help my company, as well as a number of my clients, if this project is brought to fruition.

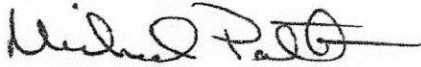
For many years, the port's dock has been a liability because it is too small to adequately conduct business. Whenever there is one ship docked at the port, it takes up most of the space there, preventing other vessels from docking. This is not conducive to business growth. Extending their dock and providing more lay-down area would be extremely beneficial for spurring economic development in this region and throughout the nation.

A few years ago, a new company began using their facilities which had a positive impact on this area; and, I know that other companies would like to use the port to import/export, but there is not enough space at the dock. Consequently, their funding proposal enhances their ability to attract trade and business; the planned infrastructure project improves the Port's economic competitiveness; the request aligns with several local, state and federal studies and comprehensive plans; the enhancement will prepare the port for an expected increase in trade due to the Panama Canal expansion project; and, since the port is considered a coastal port, the improvements will provide a "safe harbor" for vessels during tropical systems.



In closing, I commend the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District for its efforts to improve transportation, safety and economic development in the region and nation; and, I respectfully ask that you give your full consideration to their proposal. Thank you for your time and attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Patterson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mike Patterson  
President  
Central Boat Rentals, Inc.



June 25, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**RE: Letter of Support for Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District (MCHTD)  
FY 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant Application**

Dear Secretary Chao:

As a local business owner that collaborates with the Port of Morgan City and uses their dock along the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, I understand that the port is submitting a proposal to the U.S. DOT's FY 2018 *Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development* (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grants Program. The wharf rehab project is estimated to cost \$15 million; and, so, the port is requesting \$12 million in FY 18 BUILD funding and will provide a local match of \$3 million.

From my discussions with Port officials, I understand that these FY 18 BUILD funds will be used to design, engineer and construct over 64,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of additional dock space and cargo laydown area at their dock. As someone whose company uses their dock, I support this project because it would help my company, as well as a number of other companies, if this project is brought to fruition.

For many years, the port's dock has been too small to adequately conduct maritime business. Just having one ship docked at the port takes up most of the space, preventing other vessels from docking. This is not conducive to business growth. Extending their dock and providing more lay-down area would be extremely beneficial for spurring economic development in this region and throughout the nation.

The Port's funding proposal enhances the its ability to attract trade and business; the planned infrastructure project improves the Port's economic competitiveness; the request aligns with several local, state and federal studies and comprehensive plans; the enhancement will prepare the port for an expected increase in trade due to the Panama Canal expansion project; and, since the port is considered a coastal port, the improvements will provide a "safe harbor" for vessels during tropical systems.

In closing, I commend the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District for its efforts to improve transportation, safety and economic development in the region and nation; and, I respectfully ask that you give your full consideration to their proposal. Thank you for your time and attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

Jeff LeLeux, President  
Swiftships LLC



# BABIN MARINE, L.L.C.

Buy – Sell – Charter – Lease – Broker  
Marine Equipment \* Heavy Equipment

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June 25, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**RE: Letter of Support – Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District (MCHTD)  
FY 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant Application**

Dear Secretary Chao:

As the owner and operator of Babin Marine, I imported salt from Mexico and assisted with exporting rice to Haiti. I am quite familiar with the positives of using the Port of Morgan City as a base of operations, and I am even more familiar with the negatives of using the Port of Morgan City. While it is great to be close to shipping lines along the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway and the Gulf of Mexico (via the Atchafalaya River), it is extremely frustrating that the port's dock is not adequate to support additional business even though the space exists for the port to expand its dock and enhance sections of it.

I understand that the Port of Morgan City is submitting a proposal to the U.S. Department of Transportation for the FY 2018 *Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development* (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grant Program to address their deficiencies. To correct their shortcomings, they are estimating that it will cost \$15 million; therefore, the port will request \$12 million in BUILD funding and provide a non-federal match of \$3 million. Of the many candidates that request US DOT BUILD funding, I firmly believe that the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's application certainly deserves full consideration for funding!

While we have been successful with some aspects, we have reached the end, you might say, on how much we can do. If they are successful in acquiring these BUILD funds, we will be able to increase our business at the port. I can assure you, Madam Secretary, if the port could extend and enhance its dock with additional frontage and laydown area, we would be able to grow our business because we could service additional ships simultaneously. Plus, the port will be able to attract additional tenants/users.

In closing, Madam Secretary, allow me to reiterate my support for the port's FY 18 BUILD application; and, I respectfully ask that you give your full consideration to their proposal. They definitely deserve the assistance!

Thank you for your time and attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

Lee Babin  
Owner/Operator

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2511 BAYOU ROAD, HARVEY, LA 70058

Office: (504) 348-0833 FAX: (504) 227-0479

[www.babinmarine.com](http://www.babinmarine.com)

[leebabin@bellsouth.net](mailto:leebabin@bellsouth.net)





**Seacor Marine**  
**7720 Gulf Highway**  
**Lake Charles, LA 70607**  
**337-656-4597**

June 1, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**RE: Letter of Support – Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District (MCHTD)**  
**FY 2018 BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant Application**

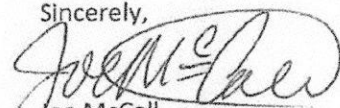
Dear Secretary Chao:

Please accept this "Letter of Support" for the Port of Morgan City's application to the U.S. Department of Transportation's FY 2018 *Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development* (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grant Program. It is my understanding that the port would like to expand their dock for business development purposes, and this would help my company out greatly. Also, I understand that the estimated total costs amount to \$15 million; and, therefore, the port is requesting \$12 million in BUILD funding and will provide a non-federal match of \$3 million. To implement this project, BUILD funds will be used to design, engineer and construct over 64,000 ft<sup>2</sup> of additional dock area at the port, providing immediate economic and safety benefits. I can attest that this is true!

We have been using the Port of Morgan City for some time, and we believe this dock expansion project will be important to them, to us and other possible companies interested in conducting business at the Port. They are in an enviable location, making it easy to conduct maritime training, ship domestically and/or internationally, and other marine-related activities. Unfortunately, they do not have enough room at their dock to adequately conduct business and training programs. We believe that if their BUILD grant application is fully-funded and their expansion/enhancement project is fully-implemented, we will be able to conduct more business at the port. Obviously, this would be a win-win for everyone.

In closing, thank you for your consideration in this matter, Madam Secretary; and, once, again, please know that I am in full-support of the Morgan City Harbor and Terminal District's FY 2018 BUILD application because it improves transportation, safety and economic development in the state and nation.

Sincerely,

  
Joe McCall  
Seacor