

April 01, 2024

U.S Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, DC 20004

Re: Letter of Intent for New York City Department of Transportation Environmental Protection Agency Climate Pollution Reduction Grants: Implementation Program FREIGHT 2030: Facilitating Regional Equity by Implementing Green Healthy Transportation, FY 2024

To Whom it May Concern:

On behalf of The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (Port Authority), I am pleased to write this Letter of Intent as a participant in the coalition applying to the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grants: Implementation Program (CPRG-I) for funding for the *FREIGHT 2030: Facilitating Regional Equity by Implementing Green Healthy Transportation*, led by the New York City Department of Transportation (DOT), together with the New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYC EDC). I am writing to express the Port Authority's enthusiastic intent to sign the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for this coalition application before receiving an award. The MOA will be submitted by DOT by July 1, 2024.

The Port Authority is a highly committed coalition member in this project and will collaborate with DOT and NYC EDC to execute and manage this project. Under the "Blue Highways" component of this proposal, we will specifically oversee the implementation of an initiative to subsidize electrical infrastructure investments by private sector port terminal operators to enable the electrification of their cargo handling equipment. We will also implement electrification of switcher locomotives and forklifts for transload operations at our cross-harbor rail float bridge operation. As a coalition member, the Port Authority will be a subrecipient of CPRG-I grant funds from DOT and will comply with all EPA rules and regulations regarding the use of federal funds and complete the project in alignment with all program requirements including the period of performance. All parties will adhere to all relevant federal, state, and local regulations, as well as the EPA's grant-specific terms and conditions.

The Port Authority is committed to helping lead decarbonization of the transportation sector in our region. We have adopted a net-zero target for Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions across all our facilities by 2050, and targets for reducing emissions within our control within closer timelines. In 2023, we released our strategy for advancing these objectives, our [Net Zero Roadmap](#).

Through discussions with the port's private sector terminal operators, shortfalls in electrical capacity and infrastructure at the waterfront have proven to be the greatest obstacle to electrification of port operations. Normally, the addition of higher capacity electrical service and infrastructure to enable the charging of cargo handling equipment would be the responsibility of the terminal operators that lease and operate the port's terminals. Through this Climate Pollution Reduction Grant, we plan to provide rebates to the terminal operators to enable development of this infrastructure so that they may proceed with deploying

clean end-use equipment. We are also exploring a Clean Port Program grant to help fund the purchase electric cargo handling equipment.

Another component of our proposal is the electrification of landside equipment at NYNJ Rail, our cross-harbor rail float bridge operation connecting Jersey City, NJ and Brooklyn, NY. NYNJ Rail connects Brooklyn and Long Island with the mainland rail network. Last year, it moved 4,970 railcars across New York Harbor, removing nearly 20,000 truck trips from the regional highway network. This grant would enable us to retrofit yard locomotives, replace forklifts, and improve electrical infrastructure to enable electrified operations at the landside terminals.

We look forward to collaborating with the coalition to advance a suite of actions that will significantly reduce GHG emissions across the New York/New Jersey metro region's freight sector and transform the region's streets into cleaner, healthier, and equitable communities.

Sincerely,



Bethann Rooney
Port Director