

PRAMILA JAYAPAL
7TH DISTRICT, WASHINGTON

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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June 14, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing in support of the Northwest Seaport Alliance's (NWSA) application for funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Discretionary Grant Opportunity. NWSA is requesting funding for the "Catalyzing Zero-Emission Drayage Trucking Infrastructure & Opportunities in the Seattle-Tacoma Region" project.

NWSA is a marine cargo operating partnership between the Port of Seattle and the Port of Tacoma, representing the fourth-largest container gateway in the United States. It manages the container, breakbulk, auto and some bulk terminals in Seattle and Tacoma.

With CFI funding, NWSA will incentivize the development of one or more shared electric truck charging hubs. The hubs will be strategically located and designed to serve the network of 4,500 heavy-duty trucks providing drayage services to the NWSA's cargo terminals at the ports of Seattle and Tacoma. The charging hubs also will provide "trucking-as-a-service" opportunities, secure overnight parking, and other key amenities such as personal vehicle parking, restrooms and refreshments. NWSA estimates that the project will catalyze the development of infrastructure sufficient to support overnight charging for 100-300 trucks. It will also provide publicly accessible "opportunity charging" for dozens of additional trucks daily.

Investing in charging hubs at NWSA will significantly reduce greenhouse gas and particulate matter emissions. These emissions disproportionately impact the predominantly communities of color and low-income communities living near the seaports and along the major freight corridors in the Seattle region. It will also serve to benefit the region's drayage trucking companies, more than 30% of which are independent owner/operators or very small companies—including many Minority-Owned Business Enterprises and Women-Owned Business Enterprises. The project will preserve, create and improve good-paying jobs in the trucking industry by providing affordable access to quieter, cleaner and healthier trucks. Finally, the project will lay the foundation for the large-scale transition to zero-emission trucking in our region and state.

This project is a significant port infrastructure investment that improves efficiency and reduces the emissions of a key U.S. trade gateway. That is why I strongly support the Northwest Seaport

Alliance's application for the U.S. Department of Transportation's Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Discretionary Grant Opportunity. Please do not hesitate to contact my office at (206) 674-0040 if you have any questions about my support for this grant application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pramila Jayapal". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Pramila" being more prominent than the last name "Jayapal".

PRAMILA JAYAPAL
Member of Congress