

December 6, 2024

The Honorable Sam Graves Chairman House Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure 2165 Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Graves:

We were so excited here at the Port of Pittsburgh Commission to learn that a final agreement has been reached on the *Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (WRDA)* and greatly appreciate your leadership and hard-work in moving this important legislation forward in the current Congress.

As you are aware, the Pittsburgh region has some of the oldest in the nation lock & dam infrastructure along our waterways. Passing WRDA on a two-year cycle is critical to projects not only in our region but across our country.

In particular, we commend you, Ranking Member Larsen, Senate EPW Chair Carper, and Ranking Member Capito for continuing to recognize the many beneficiaries of the inland waterways system and including in WRDA 2024 the cost-share adjustment for capital improvements from the current 65 percent general revenues and 35 percent Inland Waterways Trust Fund (IWTF) to 75 percent general revenues and 25 percent IWTF. This inclusion in the final WRDA 2024 will safeguard the expedited completion of these necessary and overdue projects. It will also help to ensure sooner realization of the economic and environmental benefits to the nation.

I would like to convey our support for the final WRDA 2024 agreement and we will be reaching out in the coming days to our congressional delegation from western Pennsylvania to encourage their approval of the bill when it is before both the House and Senate.

Thank you for your continued leadership and focus on helping to improve the movement of freight on our waterways.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Bucci Executive Director

Mary ann Lucci

4955 Steubenville Pike Suite 220 Pittsburgh, PA 15205 Voice: 412-201-7330 Fax: 412-722-1190 www.portpitt.com