



Port of  
**LONG BEACH**  
*The Green Port*

December 3, 2014

The Honorable Alan Lowenthal  
United States Congress  
100 W. Broadway  
West Tower Suite 600  
Long Beach, CA 90801

Dear Congressman Lowenthal:

On behalf of the Port of Long Beach, I am writing to express support for H.R. 5624, Economy in Motion: The National Multimodal and Sustainable Freight Infrastructure Act. We strongly support the need for a comprehensive national freight policy and H.R. 5624 addresses the need to provide a funding strategy for goods movement-related projects.

The Port of Long Beach is the second busiest seaport in the nation, handling over \$180 billion in trade annually and supporting more than 1.4 million jobs. Over a ten year period, the Port will invest over \$4 billion through its Capital Improvement Program, which will help move goods more efficiently, sustain competitiveness and create thousands of much needed jobs. The Port of Long Beach's ability to handle current and future trade volumes depends on a regional and national transportation system that creates fair conditions for global competition.

H.R. 5624 seeks to provide a dedicated and sustainable revenue source to fund multimodal, freight-specific formula grants for states and a multimodal, freight-specific competitive grant program for local, regional and state governments. Under current surface transportation law, freight provisions exist to encourage federal investments into freight mobility; however, existing law does not include dedicated funding for freight infrastructure projects. Specifically, H.R. 5624 addresses the critical funding challenges and significant need to improve the efficiency and reliability of freight supply chains; address freight needs to facilitate regionally and nationally significant economic development; and supports efforts to mitigate the environmental impacts of freight-related operations.

As Congress addresses surface transportation reauthorization in the coming year, it is our hope that provisions within H.R. 5624 be considered to fund national freight projects. Thank you for your continued leadership and dedication to finding solutions to address the nation's transportation needs.

Sincerely,

Jon W. Slangerup  
Chief Executive