



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

W. Sheppard Miller III
Secretary of Transportation

August 16, 2022

The Honorable Michael D. Duman
Mayor City of Suffolk
P.O. Box 1858
Suffolk, VA 23439

Dear Mayor Duman:

Business ready commercial, industrial and warehouse sites and facilities are needed to support the Commonwealth's efforts to identify economic development opportunities to attract new business. In return these businesses provide jobs and an increasing tax base. The Port 460 Logistics Center in Suffolk is such a site. It is an excellent opportunity to add economic value in your community. In addition it is directly linked to the success of the Port of Virginia, as it allows the Port to maintain and expand its competitive advantage.

In recent years, the Commonwealth has invested over \$2 billion in Port infrastructure and channel widening efforts. The growth within The Port's system of terminals has and will continue to create economic opportunities for Virginia and its communities through job creation, tax base expansion, and growth in wages. These strategic infrastructure investments at The Port of Virginia have been supported by the port, the state, and through discretionary federal grants, and these investments are producing year-over-year record growth.

I understand that the success of this project is partially dependent upon the performance of the connecting transportation network. Virginia is committed to working with Suffolk and other partners in supporting planning and investment in key freight corridors, such as U.S. 460 and U.S. 58. As with the investments in The Port of Virginia and other transportation infrastructure projects, funding for the needed improvements could come from federal, state, regional or local programs.

I and my team are ready to assist in identifying eligible funding sources and assisting Suffolk to seek and secure the needed funding. Working with the Suffolk administration, we will work to leverage the positive economic impact of developments, such as the Port 460 Logistics Center, to compete for funds to advance needed transportation infrastructure investments. This is an important project that will benefit Suffolk, The Port and the Commonwealth and I stand ready to help you bring it to fruition.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Sheppard Miller III".

W. Sheppard Miller III