



Transportation Communications Union/IAM

International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers



God Bless America

Robert A. Scardelletti, *National President*

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

Ron Kloos, *National Vice President / National Legislative Director*

Mark Taylor, *Asst. National Legislative Director*

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May 30, 2013

The Honorable Ray LaHood, Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

On behalf of the Transportation Communications Union/IAM (TCU), I write in support of the Alaska Railroad Corporation's Application for TIGER Discretionary Grant Funding for the Seward East Dock Expansion.

TCU represents approximately 50,000 members in the U.S., most employed in the railroad industry and merged with the International Association of Machinists January 2012. This project will benefit TCU Carmen members as this new dock will improve the safety, efficiency and capacity of freight intermodal operations (ship-to-train) with the potential of creating more jobs.

The Alaska Railroad needs to increase its freight operations and become more competitive with the market in order to survive and grow in the future. The Seward dock operation and related rail infrastructure is growing, and in order to meet the demand of the market, the dock needs to be widened, lengthened and protected. It is anticipated that rail freight operations in and out of Seward will increase and put the Alaska Railroad in a more stable and less cyclical operation.

This expansion would alleviate the limitations of working the current dock and the congested operations. Seward is where the Alaska Railroad began nearly 100 years ago and is a very friendly community to the railroad and welcomes the railroad's efforts to support commerce and environmental sensitivity to this vital intermodal facility.

I respectfully ask that the Administration consider these views as you move forward on this important matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R.A. Scardelletti". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "R" and "A".

Robert A. Scardelletti
National President