

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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May 13, 2019

Port of Seattle 2711 Alaskan Way PO Box 1209 Seattle, WA 98111

Dear Port of Seattle Commission:

This note is to express my thanks for your advocacy efforts in Olympia, and your partnership on the Maritime Innovation Center project.

The Department of Commerce is glad to house the Governor's Sector Lead Program, and through that program to provide policy leadership on maritime issues from the Governor's office and our Department. Since 2017, we have been partnering with the Port of Seattle and other maritime interests to implement the Governor's Washington Maritime Blue 2050 initiative. The development and construction of a Maritime Innovation Center is critical to this effort, and we were thrilled to receive \$5 million in the Governor's Clean Energy Fund within the Capital Budget this legislative session.

Through our partnership with your team at the Port of Seattle, we were able to make the argument to legislators in Olympia that this Maritime Innovation Center will help our maritime industry stay competitive and continue to grow while tackling the challenges of reducing carbon emissions and pursuing environmental sustainability.

Thank you for your leadership in this work, and for helping to fight for this important funding.

Sincerely,

Lisa Brown Director

Gisa J. Brown