T R U M B U L L I N D U S T R I E S

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The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

April 16th, 2020

Dear Secretary Chao,

We are writing to you today to express our support for the Western Reserve Port Authority's application for funding in the FY20 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grants Program. Funding will be used for the Lordstown Smart Logistics Hub, a strategic infrastructure initiative to capitalize on Lordstown's location at the intersection of multiple modes of transportation, broadband, and electrification to position the area as the premier regional warehousing and distribution hub.

Investing in this project would help invigorate Northeast Ohio, particularly the Mahoning Valley and Lordstown, areas that were sharply impacted by economic downturns. The Lordstown Smart Logistics Hub will deliver significant improvements in transportation safety, mobility, access, and reliability. Improvements will include an intermodal rail connection at Ohio Commerce Center, an autonomous truck circulator route, consolidation of the current split interchange configuration along the Ohio Turnpike at Lordstown, and a transfer yard for trailers at the Ohio Turnpike Lordstown interchange.

Trumbull Industries and Top Shelf Manufacturing believe in this project. As manufacturers and distributors of products for the construction industry, we import various components from all over the world, fabricate them and then ship them nationwide. Not only would the intermodal rail connection significantly assist our company in reducing lead times for many of our components, but it would also increase the sales opportunities for our products on the west coast. It will also enhance the possibilities of significant investments by our company both in infrastructure, employment and inventory with estimated employment gains of 15 jobs.

Further, the Lordstown Smart Logistics Hub would build off the existing investment in transportation infrastructure, and the private investment by companies such as General Motors (GM) & LG Chem, Lordstown Motors Corporation, and TJX Homegoods to name a few.

We urge you to give the Western Reserve Port Authority's grant application your fullest consideration and support as it presents a catalytic opportunity to bring federal dollars to the Mahoning Valley to aid in the region's ongoing economic recovery.

Respectfully,

Samuel M. Miller Kenneth M. Miller

Samuel M. Miller, and Kenneth M. Miller
Trumbull Industries, Inc. and Top Shelf Manufacturing, Inc.