



November 7, 2019

Lt. Col. David C. Park
Commander, Philadelphia District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Wanamaker Building, 6th Floor
100 Penn Square East
Philadelphia, PA 19107-3390

Dear Colonel Park:

The Pilots' Association for the Bay and River Delaware, the Maritime Exchange for the Delaware River and Bay, and the Mariners' Advisory Committee for the Bay and River Delaware strongly support the sentiments expressed by Jeffrey S. Theobald, PhilaPort CEO & Executive Director, in his e-mail to you of October 30, 2019. Specifically, we share his concern that:

It is our view that the very large risk of unknown variables that it is more than likely that the current funding will not be enough. We believe . . . steps should be taken now to ensure that funding is adequate to finish the project.

In a meeting with several members of your staff on November 6, 2019, we reiterated our belief that the Corps District Office should submit a timely 2020 workplan request in the amount of \$10 million to ensure funding is sufficient to cover contingencies that may arise during the final phase of the project, and to ensure the construction of the Packer Avenue turning basin as part of the project as it is necessary for its optimum operation and safety.

Maritime stakeholders stand ready to assist in this effort. However, several steps are necessary to secure the federal funds and the local match, and none of these can take place until the District Office formally requests the additional funds.

We respectfully request you make this request as soon as possible and notify us when it has been done.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this most pressing matter.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Kemmerley
President
Pilots' Association for the
Bay and River Delaware

Dennis Rochford
President
Maritime Exchange for the
Delaware River and Bay

Stuart Griffin
Chairman
Mariners' Advisory
Committee

cc: Jeffery S. Theobald