



James M. Foote  
President & Chief  
Executive Officer

500 Water St., C900  
Jacksonville, FL 32202

March 4, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary, United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue South East  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

Since the founding of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad (B&O) in 1827, CSX and our predecessor railroads have been driving innovation to serve the transportation needs of Baltimore, the State of Maryland, the Mid-Atlantic and our nation. In that spirit, CSX proudly endorses the State of Maryland's transformative INFRA grant application to increase clearances in the Howard Street Tunnel and 22 adjacent locations, which would provide double-stack rail service for the Port of Baltimore and the entire I-95 corridor. This critical infrastructure project would position Baltimore, the State, the Mid-Atlantic and the nation for long-term, sustainable economic growth, reduced highway congestion and a cleaner environment.

Providing double-stack access to the Port of Baltimore has been a top priority for the Port, the State, the City and the metropolitan business community - including CSX - for over a generation. However, prior estimates suggested doing so would cost between \$1 billion and \$3 billion, and would be highly disruptive to Baltimore City.

Technological advances now make double-stack clearing to the Port of Baltimore and the I-95 corridor possible at a fraction of previously estimated costs and with limited impact to the public. The results of a recent feasibility study commissioned by the Maryland Port Administration (MPA) and CSX now estimate this project to cost \$466 million and take up to five years to construct. The INFRA grant program provides a rare opportunity to complete this transformative critical infrastructure project.

We appreciate the opportunity to partner with the State of Maryland to help improve our nation's freight transportation system, maximize freight rail capacity and increase intermodal connectivity between the northeastern and southeastern United States.

We respectfully request your favorable consideration of Maryland's INFRA grant request and stand ready to answer any questions you or your staff may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James M. Foote". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

James M. Foote