



# MARITIME EXCHANGE

for the Delaware River and Bay

*Leading the Way to Port Progress*

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*Via email to Timothy Pickering, Mauricio Castro, Andrew Sinclair, Jonathan Atwood, Brendan Dugan, Amanda Rutherford*

July 29, 2020

*Hard copy to:*

Rear Admiral Mark H. Buzby, USN, Ret.  
Administrator  
U.S. Maritime Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Admiral Buzby:

The Maritime Exchange for the Delaware River and Bay strongly supports the South Jersey Port Corporation (SJPC) request to extend the Mid-Atlantic Barge Marine Highway project route to include the Joseph A. Balzano Marine Terminal in Camden, New Jersey. As you are aware, the Maritime Exchange is a nonprofit trade association dedicated to promoting and protecting Delaware River commerce.

The SJPC is a significant economic engine in the tristate region. It owns and operates several marine terminals on the Delaware River, including the Balzano Marine Terminal. Its purpose is to provide employment opportunities and business incentives in southern New Jersey.

Several SJPC customers operate at sites directly adjacent to the Balzano terminal and would be able to take advantage of the Columbia barge service. SJPC estimates an initial 15,600 containers moving by barge annually and expects increasing volumes as the service becomes established. This activity would foster additional economic activity not just in South Jersey but also in the region as a whole.

Your support of this effort to extend the Mid-Atlantic Marine Highway route is needed. Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please contact me at 302-377-2704 or at [dennis.rochford@maritimedelriv.com](mailto:dennis.rochford@maritimedelriv.com) with any questions or for further information.

Sincerely,

Dennis Rochford  
President

cc: Andrew Saporito, Executive Direction & CEO, SJPC  
Lisa Himber