

800 Exchange St., Suite 410 Astoria, OR 97103 (503) 325-1000 phone / (503) 325-8325 fax www.co.clatsop.or.us

February 22, 2023

Associate Administrator
Business and Finance Development
Room W21-318
Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Subject: Support for WCT Marine and Construction MARAD Small Shipyard Grant

Dear Associate Administrator,

The Clatsop County Board of Commissioners supports WCT Marine's application to the MARAD Small Shipyard Grant Program for a self-propelled and steerable transporter to move vessels from the water and into enclosed building space or the environmental work pad funded by a previous MARAD award. WCT Marine & Construction has operated at North Tongue Point since 2014, providing boat repair and fabrication services to vessels on the Lower Columbia river and beyond.

Approval of this application will provide the necessary infrastructure for WCT Marine & Construction to take full advantage of the new capabilities being developed at North Tongue Point, including the installation of a 1,500-metric ton, fully-electric mobile ship lift. This equipment/capability is being installed by Hyak Tongue Point, landlord to WCT Marine & Construction.

The Board of Commissioners is pleased to support this application; and the continued growth of this vital industry to our rural community.

Sincerely,

Mark Kujala, Chair

Refark Kijak

**Clatsop County Board of Commissioners**