

February 6, 2018

Testimony of:

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My name is Edward J. Kelly and I am the Executive Director of the Maritime Association of the Port of NY/NJ.

Since 1873 the Maritime Association has been the primary advocate of the NY/NJ commercial maritime industry. Our paid membership of over 560 corporate and individual members includes international shipping concerns, marine terminals, longshore labor, pilots, agents, admiralty attorneys, tug/barge owners/operators, marine underwriters, ship repair facilities, draymen, and a host of other commercial maritime interests.

I am here today to remind the City of New York that commercial maritime interests are a vital component of the NY economic engine.

Since its founding, New York has been a maritime city. It remains so today and acts as a vital gateway for local, regional, and national commerce.

A recent economic study reveals that in 2016, the Port generated:

- 6.3 Million TEU of containerized cargo
- 577,223 Vehicles
- 567,649 on-dock rail lifts
- 730,617 cruise ship passengers
- 3.7 million metric tons of bulk cargoes
- 400,000 full time JOB equivalents
- 229,000 direct JOBS
- \$25.7 Billion personal income
- \$64.8 Billion business income
- \$8.5 Billion Federal/State/Local taxes

Additionally waterborne movement of people and freight is

- the most fuel efficient
- the most environmentally friendly
- requires the least infrastructure
- the least congesting
- the most cost efficient

The commercial maritime industry is of great value to the people of New York because it:

- Reduces congestion
- Reduces pollution
- Preserves bridges and roadways
- Reduces truck traffic and emissions
- Adds transportation capacity
- Produces well-paying JOBS with family sustaining benefits

Despite these benefits, it seems that New York has lost interest in its historic and vital waterfront. While the last Administration forged the visionary Comprehensive Waterfront Plan, and instituted the Mayor's Waterfront Advisory Board, the current Administration has yet to empanel the Advisory Board and has relegated the City Council Waterfronts Committee to a sub committee of the Land Use Committee.

In our dense urban environment, it is essential that New York continue to protect and promote our Significant Maritime Industrial Areas, which are unique geophysical locations located contiguous to channels, and zoned to promote water-dependent industrial usage.

It is also important that New York take steps to alert its youth to the lucrative jobs the maritime industry offers. While EDC has taken steps to promote this awareness and work with CTE High Schools, much more needs to be done to create a qualified workforce.

Please remember that the commercial maritime industry stands ready to ensure that New Yorkers are able to enjoy a future that is cleaner, safer, more environmentally friendly, cost efficient, connected, and with JOBS that are family sustaining.

Thank you.