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June 21, 2018

San Francisco Port Commissioners
Port of San Francisco
Pier 1, The Embarcadero, San Francisco, CA 94111

Re: Support for the Alcatraz Embarkation Project

Members of the San Francisco Port Commission,

The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, representing the interests of thousands of local businesses, wholeheartedly supports the proposed improvements to the Alcatraz Embarkation (Piers 31-33) – a visionary project that has been developed by the Port of San Francisco, National Park Service, and Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy. This project will result in a substantial public/private investment on the waterfront that will give visitors to the city and this national park site a permanent gateway to Alcatraz – one that matches the caliber of our country's most historic and scenic places.

Attracting more than 1.7 million visitors annually with \$175 million in total annual spending power, Alcatraz Island is an economic boon to our city and immensely important to San Francisco's tourism and travel industries. The improvements included within the Alcatraz Embarkation project are critical in continuing to drive this engagement, and creating a long-term home for embarkation with updated amenities that will encourage public access to the shoreline, continued maritime use, and increase accessibility to this historic landmark for all walks of life.

The project has been designed by award-winning architecture and landscape architecture firms, and will offer new public amenities including a shoreline plaza, seating areas, a welcome center, interpretive exhibits and signage, weather-sheltered queuing areas, and a café. Combined, these features improve public access to San Francisco Bay, preserve and rehabilitate waterfront buildings, and enhance the pedestrian experience along the waterfront.

San Francisco's knowledge and visitor based economy employs over 800,000 people, attracts over 25 million visitors a year and generates over \$1.5 billion a year in general fund taxes. The Port of San Francisco is a key part of this economic success story and your support for the Pier 31 – 33 project will help continue this growth. We commend the National Parks Service, National Parks Conservancy, and the Port of San Francisco for putting together such a robust plan for improvement to the Alcatraz Embarkation site, a project we have no doubt will be beneficial to our many members and the city as a whole. Thus, the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce respectfully encourages the Commission to approve this significant project so that the public may soon begin to enjoy its many public benefits.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jim Lazarus".

Jim Lazarus
Senior Vice President, Public Policy
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce