Upper Monongahela River Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 519
Granville, WV 26534-0519

January 25, 2023

Mr. Fred Jones
Office of Ports & Waterways Planning
Maritime Administration, US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Designation of the Monongahela and Allegheny Rivers as M-79 Maritime Highway

Dear Mr. Jones:

The Upper Monongahela River Assn., Inc. (UMRA) recognizes and supports the efforts of the City of Morgantown and the Port Authority of Pittsburgh in co-sponsoring an application to MARAD requesting designation of the Monongahela and Allegheny Rivers as M-79 Maritime Highway.

The M-79 Maritime Highway will be a great asset for this region of West Virginia and Pennsylvania. It will enable local municipalities to start new economic development projects along the shores of the Monongahela River. This designation will help start new businesses and expand existing ones to move more freight and passengers on the Monongahela River.

Sincerely,

Barry Pallay

Barry Pallay
President, UMRA
bpallay@comcast.net

Cc: City of Morgantown