



U.S. Committee on the Marine Transportation System

1200 New Jersey AVE, SE

Washington, DC 20590

202-366-3612

www.cmts.gov

August 25, 2021

Contact:

Acting Administrator of the Maritime Administration Lucinda Lessley Appointed as Coordinating Board Chair of the U.S. Committee on the Marine Transportation System

Under Secretary Transportation for Policy Carlos Monje Jr. has designated Ms. Lucinda Lessley, Acting Administrator of the Maritime Administration, as the chair of the Coordinating Board of the U.S. Committee on the Marine Transportation System (CMTS). The term will last for 12 months starting August 1, 2021. By statute, the chair of the Coordinating Board rotates yearly among the U.S. Departments of Defense, Commerce, Homeland Security, and Transportation.

The CMTS is a Cabinet-level interdepartmental/interagency maritime policy coordinating committee chaired by Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg. As chair of the sub-cabinet Coordinating Board, Acting Administrator Lessley will work with more than 25 Federal member agencies to manage day-to-day policy development, establish the annual work plan, and provide leadership to the CMTS Executive Secretariat Staff and will act as chair until such time as a Maritime Administrator is confirmed.

“The Maritime Administration leads the U.S. Department of Transportation’s efforts to advance the marine transportation system and has been an active member of the CMTS since its establishment in 2005,” noted Under Secretary Monje. “Lucinda is the perfect leader for the CMTS as a champion of Department and Administration priorities from addressing supply chain disruption to improving diversity across the marine transportation industry.”

Under the Department’s leadership, the CMTS will build upon the resolution on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) that was approved by the Coordinating Board at a quarterly meeting held July 21, 2021. The resolution calls for member agencies to share best practices to enhance DEI and to work jointly to support increased DEI within the MTS. The CMTS will also enhance its workforce support initiatives for the military to mariner program, as well as continue interagency efforts related to combating COVID-19 and strengthening environmental justice, MTS resilience, navigation and offshore safety, and U.S. Arctic maritime transportation.

For more information, go to www.CMTS.gov.

###