

June 13, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

Thank you for your service to our country.

These times of great economic opportunity can only be capitalized upon if our nation has a strong transportation network. In this regard, I am pleased to bring to your attention a competitive grant application, submitted by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), for funding in the 2018 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Program.

I am writing to express support of the application for the Phase 5b of the Mill Creek Expressway project in Cincinnati, Ohio. This phase will construct new interchange structures to improve the connection from southbound Interstate 75 to westbound I-74. In addition, capacity improvements will be constructed on I-74.

The I-75 trade corridor is one of America's busiest, as it extends from Michigan to Miami. This section of I-75 is a critical component of America's freight network. Our region is the lynchpin of this corridor. Freight on trucks coursing through this corridor is estimated to be valued at over \$435 billion per year. The project will make a vast improvement to the flow of freight and will have regional and national impacts. As an air quality non-attainment area, the citizens of the region will benefit from reduced mobile source emissions.

Please give this regionally and nationally important project all due consideration.

Sincerely,



Mark Policinski  
Chief Executive Officer

**T.C. Rogers**  
President

**Mark R. Policinski**  
CEO/Executive Director

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