

# United States Senate

July 1, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing to you in support of Missoula County's application, in partnership with the City of Missoula, for Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant funds for the Mullan BUILD project.

As a rapidly growing neighborhood in Missoula, the area surrounding the BUILD project lacks infrastructure necessary to support the growing demands of Missoula. Located in a rural census designation, this particular area has potential for development that would in turn reduce the rapidly increasing traffic in the county.

If successful, funds will be used support new transportation infrastructure on the Northwest end of Missoula. New roads in the project area will create a network of complete streets, including sidewalks, bike lanes, trails, and improve overall connectivity that can link residents to work, school, and other destinations in minutes. Additionally, improvements are expected to relieve traffic congestion particularly at the Mullan Road and Reserve Street intersection, and spur economic development by creating construction jobs as well as future jobs through commercial, industrial, and residential development.

I trust you will give this application fair and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,



Steve Daines  
United States Senator