

May 11, 2020

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

RE: Support for the City of Tipton, Iowa – BUILD Grant Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

On behalf of the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA), I am writing to you in support of the City of Tipton's 2020 BUILD Grant application. The project is part of a comprehensive infrastructure improvement initiative centered on enhancing the city's livability-driven development plans.


The IEDA's mission is to strengthen the economic and community vitality of communities across our state. Projects such as the one the City of Tipton is submitting for BUILD Grant consideration are instrumental in helping us achieve our state's economic development goals. Tipton is located near the metropolitan areas of Iowa City, Cedar Rapids and the Quad Cities. As the county seat, Tipton's vibrant community boasts plenty of amenities that make it an enjoyable place to visit, live and work. However, critical community infrastructure requires much-needed attention.

The City's BUILD project will accelerate development efforts by funding large-scale infrastructure improvements such as ADA modifications, street reconstruction and fiber optic conduit placements. This type of project also spurs further private investment within the area as safety and connectivity are enhanced, while bolstering quality of life amenities that attract and retain employees and businesses throughout the region.

Once again, it is a pleasure to submit this letter in support the City of Tipton's 2020 BUILD Grant application and I urge you to consider approving the application. The project reflects the community's commitment to enhancing amenities, improving quality of life and creating an environment for further development.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Debi V. Durham
Director