

April 23, 2020

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary, United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

SUBJECT: Support for Highway 38 Improvements in Tipton, Iowa (BUILD Grant Application)

Dear Secretary Chao:

On behalf of the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT), I offer our full support of the Highway 38 Improvements project and the BUILD grant that the city of Tipton is applying for to help pay for this critical project. This is a joint project between the city and the Iowa DOT. The Iowa Transportation Commission has committed match funding for this project by including it in their 2020-2024 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program. Iowa DOT is preparing to put this project out for bids as soon as this winter.

As a partner with the city of Tipton, we value any project which enhances connectivity within the community as it leads to increased economic opportunity as well as improved quality of life.

The Highway 38 Improvements project will:

- increase pedestrian and motorist safety
- enhance streetscapes and encourage cleanup and other development
- Improve pedestrian and recreational connectivity with important points-of-interest and recreational opportunities
- strengthen fire-protection capabilities
- eliminate or reduce flooding and improve waste water collection and treatment

You will see in the grant application that the Highway 38 Improvements project represents a planned-out priority and is supported by diverse partners who are eager to move forward with implementation. For these reasons, I encourage you to support this application and assist the city of Tipton and its partners in continuing the momentum to become a major regional engine of economic growth. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Scott C. Marler, Director