

April 8, 2020

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

Dear Secretary Chao,

The West Virginia Division of Highways (“WVDOH”) recently submitted an application through the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (“INFRA”) grant program for the completion of 10.6 miles of the Corridor H project from Kerens to Parsons in Tucker County, West Virginia.

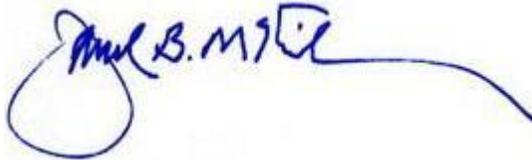
The Corridor H project represents the profound impact that infrastructure projects can have on states across the nation. Corridor H is part of the Appalachian Development Highway System (“ADHS”), which consists of highway infrastructure designed as local and regional routes to improve economic development in this historically isolated region.

Congress and the U.S. Department of Transportation have continuously worked to fund and help complete the ADHS and award BUILD grants to projects such as Corridor H. In states like West Virginia, this is especially helpful and important as the difficult terrain otherwise increases the costs of constructing new highway infrastructure. The INFRA grant that the WVDOH has applied for will assist with the engineering and design of a critical part of the Corridor H project that will ease the transport of people and goods across the Appalachia region.

The WVDOH was previously awarded BUILD grants in 2018 and 2019 for the section of Corridor H between Kerens and Parsons, and its completion will significantly improve the lives of those traveling throughout West Virginia, and completion of the additional mileage is critical to the economic success of both West Virginia and the entire nation.

As such, I support and encourage you to approve the INFRA grant application submitted by the WVDOH. Please call my Wheeling office at 304-232-3801 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David B. McKinley, P.E.", with a large, stylized initial "D" and a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress