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July 6, 2018

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue Southeast
Washington, D.C. 20003

Dear Secretary Chao:

I write to request consideration of the BUILD application being submitted by the city of Hays, Kansas seeking funding for their Vine Street Corridor Improvement Project. Hays is a thriving rural community in northwest Kansas and Vine Street (U.S. Highway 183) is the primary route connecting them to Interstate 70.

The city of Hays has long struggled with the current configuration of the corridor. The existing design is not structured for today's traffic loads and counts. As development has increased along the route, traffic conditions continue to deteriorate significantly resulting in delays, a high number of accidents and frustration for drivers.

The city has worked with the Kansas Department of Transportation in developing the proposed Vine Street Corridor Improvement Project, which will transform the roadway into an innovative *Access Managed Roundabout Corridor* with reconstruction also addressing the current safety and access issues. The concept replaces traffic signals with a series of roundabouts to alleviate current traffic issues and prepare for the community's future growth. City officials envision the improvements will enhance economic development opportunities for existing and new businesses along Vine Street.

The Vine Street Corridor Improvement Project solves a critical infrastructure need for this growing rural community, while fulfilling the goals of the BUILD program. I appreciate your consideration of their application.

Very truly yours,



Jerry Moran

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