



MARS BOROUGH

598 Spring Avenue P.O. Box 395

Mars, PA 16046

www.marsborough.com

July 11, 2018

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

**RE: Gateway 228 Project
Butler County, Pennsylvania**

Dear Secretary Chao:

On behalf of Mars Borough, I would like to convey our support for Butler County's funding request through the U.S. Department of Transportation – Better Utilizing Investment to Leverage Development (BUILD) Discretionary Grant Program for the Gateway 228 Project. The transportation improvements as part of Gateway 228 provide significant safety and travel time for our residents in Mars Borough and neighboring communities.

Mars Borough serves as the only small walkable town on the Route 228 corridor in southern Butler County. In Gateway 228 targeting transportation improvements to Balls Bend, a segment of Route 228 with significant safety and accessibility issues. This 1.6-mile, two-lane stretch is notorious for traffic congestion, increased travel times, and excessive crashes and fatalities. As the primary transportation route between Route 8 and I-79/Route 19, Route 228 needs to be updated to accommodate the growth in the Mars area. The safety of our residents is of highest importance, and we commend Butler County's commitment to improve safety and capacity along Route 228.

Recognizing the impact of the proposed transportation improvements to Route 228, Mars Borough is pleased to offer its support for Butler County's BUILD request. Should you have any questions regarding my support for this important transportation initiative, please do not hesitate to contact me at 724-625-1858 (Borough office) or 724-777-2489 (mobile). Thank you for your time in helping to make this worthwhile project become a reality.

Sincerely,

Gregg D. Hartung
Mayor

Borough Office
Phone: 724-625-1858
Fax: 724-625-4065

Police Department
Phone: 724-625-3310
Fax: 724-625-3597
Emergency: 911

Public Works
Phone: 724-625-1480
Fax: 724-625-4065

Code Enforcement
Phone: 412-629-0111
Fax: 724-625-4065