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Senate of Pennsylvania

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The Honorable Elaine Chao  
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:

We would like to convey our strong support for Butler County's application through the U.S. Department of Transportation – Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Discretionary Grant Program for the Gateway 228 Project. The planned transportation project will not only improve traffic flow, safety, and air quality along the Corridor, but build upon the success of more than \$136 million of transportation improvements completed or currently under construction along Route 228.

Butler County is seeking a BUILD grant to improve roadway conditions and safety along two areas of Route 228 – Balls Bend and Haines School–Commonwealth. Requested funds will address the geographically dangerous stretch of Route 228, known as Balls Bend, which runs through Middlesex Township and intersects with PA Route 8. Additionally, BUILD funds will mitigate congestion along Route 228 at Haines School–Commonwealth, an overburdened stretch of roadway in Cranberry Township, that will serve as a critical connection between Shell Company's future ethane cracker plant in Beaver County and several other large employment centers. Both areas are critical components to the success of future development along Route 228, which connects urban and rural residents with key employment centers, schools, and local amenities. The planned improvements are essential to creating a sustainable environment for Butler County's expanding business and economic markets.

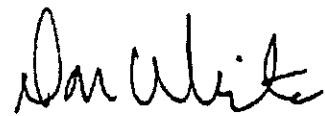
We commend Butler County's commitment to advancing regional economic development through an improved transportation network, and fully support the County's funding request. Should you

have any questions regarding our support for this critical transportation initiative, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Scott E. Hutchinson  
State Senator, 21<sup>st</sup> District



Don White  
State Senator, 41<sup>st</sup> District