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July 10, 2018

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

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

Dear Secretary Chao:

On behalf of Adams Township, I am expressing our support for Butler County's funding request through the U.S. Department of Transportation - Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Discretionary Grant Program for the Gateway 228 project. It is my understanding that Butler County is seeking \$25 million in BUILD funds to complete roadway improvements along two areas of Route 228 - Balls Bend and Haines School-Commonwealth.

The main access to Adams Township, a rural community located in southern Butler County, is Route 228. As the primary transportation artery through our Township, Route 228 plays a significant role in the socio-economic development of Adams. Butler County's BUILD request will improve safety and capacity along Route 228, as well as improved access to rural neighborhoods along the corridor. Collectively, these improvements are intended to provide the infrastructure for new development, including new business interest in Adams Township. Planned roadway improvements are consistent with the Township's efforts to attract new businesses; thereby creating new job opportunities and increasing the tax base for our local school district.

Recognizing the potential long-term transportation and economic benefits for Adams Township, we are pleased to offer our support for Butler County's funding request. Should you have any questions regarding our support, please do not hesitate to contact me at (724) 538-8841. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas L. Franceschina".

Thomas L. Franceschina, Chairman
Board of Supervisors