

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 4, 2019

U.S. Department of Transportation
Office of Infrastructure, Finance, and Innovation
Attn: Paul Baumer
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 10590

RE: Gateway 228 Capacity & Safety Improvements - Final Segments Butler County,
Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Baumer:

I am writing to express my support for Butler County's funding application through the U.S. Department of Transportation - the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Discretionary Grant Program for the Gateway 228 Capacity & Safety Improvements - Final Segments. Recognizing the importance of a reliable transportation network system to the economic development of a region, Butler County is proposing the completion of critical transportation improvements along the areas of the Route 228 Corridor. Butler County recently received a BUILD grant to complete a portion of the 228 Corridor and the INFRA funding will complete the missing link of this critical transportation corridor.

Butler County has experienced immense growth in recent years, particularly along Route 228. This 24-mile economic thread is the County's primary link between several burgeoning economic activity centers - southern Butler County, the fastest growing community in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and Shell Chemical's \$6 billion ethane cracker plant in neighboring Beaver County. Butler County is seeking INFRA funds to address the most significant transportation challenges along Route 228 - inadequate capacity, excessive number of crashes and fatalities, and lack of access to key employment centers, schools, and residential neighborhoods. Due to the County's rural setting, a reliable and safe roadway network is vital to economic development and job growth. The requested funds will create new opportunities to connect rural residents to suburban employment centers, impacting the flexibility and mobility of the workforce.

Once again, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the aforementioned grant application, and I respectfully ask that you give Butler County's application all due consideration. In the event that this application is selected for funding, please direct a copy of your award notification letter to my Grants Coordinator, Alex Byrne. Alex can be reached via e-mail at Alexandra_Byrne@toomey.senate.gov, by phone at 215-241-1090, by fax at 202-224-4442, or through the mailing address U.S. Customs House, 200 Chestnut Street, Suite 600, Philadelphia, PA 19106.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pat Toomey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "P".

Pat Toomey
U.S. Senator