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# United States Senate

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May 23, 2019

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

Dear Secretary Chao:

I write in support of the City of Russell, Kansas and their application for rural funds through the BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant Program. This program would assist them in the necessary replacement of ten streets and sidewalks within the city's main corridor.

A challenge faced by many rural communities is decreasing revenue and the demand to replace aging infrastructure. Many of the streets the city proposes to replace are over 50 years in age and are in disrepair to such an extent it is not safe to travel them at normal traffic speeds. Since 2013, there have been 130 accidents on these ten streets alone. Safety of area residents is also a factor to consider with the sidewalks, as a majority of households without vehicles reside in the main corridor of the city. Funding would assist the city in replacing the deteriorated streets and sidewalks so they can provide better and safer access and mobility to their residents.

The City of Russell has developed a transportation master plan and continues to leverage local and state funds as they understand the vast demand for roadway improvements and the high importance placed on prioritizing those needs.

Thank you for your consideration of their application.

Very truly yours,



Jerry Moran