

1980 W Broad St. I Columbus, OH 43223

July 17, 2018

Secretary Elaine L. Chao,
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Appalachian Ohio Infrastructure Gateway Project

Dear Secretary Chao,

I write today in support of the Appalachian Ohio Infrastructure Gateway project. The project consists of replacing 130 miles of gravel/dirt county roads with a hard surface. These roads will serve as secondary road vehicle testing in over 400 square miles of Southeastern Ohio.

Gravel/dirt roads are used by many for their primary transportation. These roads are frequently closed, causing residents to be stranded from their jobs, schools, and emergency services. County roads are also home to dust which can affect the health of the residents causing asthma, lung cancer, and other health issues. This project will help farming businesses by providing them with better routes to export their crops.

I strongly support this application and ask that your office give this request every consideration. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please contact me at 614-387-5175 with any further questions.

Respectfully

James A. Barna, P.E. Executive Director

