



Illinois Department of Transportation

Office of the Secretary
2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois / 62764
Telephone 217/782-5597

July 12, 2019

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE,
Washington, D.C. 20590-9898

Dear Secretary Chao:

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) supports the Macon County Illinois application to the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) program for FY 2019. The application seeks \$7.5 million in federal BUILD funds for the "Reas Bridge Road Replacement" project. The total estimated cost of the project is \$14.5 million, with local (\$3 million) and state funding (\$4 million) contributing \$7 million towards the project.

This project will achieve the goals set for the BUILD program by improving safety and mobility, and quality of life. It will be a catalyst for further economic development improving connections with agricultural producers, manufacturers, and the Midwest Inland Port for the entire region. Energy savings and emission reductions will be realized because of lower fuel usage. State of good repair will be achieved with the replacement of obsolete unsafe bridges, added capacity from a new four lane thoroughfare, and the ability for trucks to use the new bridge thereby easing the wear and tear on local roads and arterials.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Holly Ostdick at 217-557-4145.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Omer M. Osman".

Omer M. Osman, P.E.
Acting Secretary