



CITY OF RAPID CITY

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701-2724

Office of the Mayor

300 6th Street

605-394-4110

E-mail: mayorsoffice@rcgov.org

April 16, 2020

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I strongly support the South Dakota Department of Transportation's Better Utilization of Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant application to reconstruct the I-90 La Crosse Street Interchange costing approximately \$13 million.

The proposed project rebuilds a 1983 interchange constrained by adjacent development to a modern diverging diamond configuration. The interchange serves a major retail area in Rapid City connected to a huge rural trade area including western South Dakota, northeastern Wyoming, northwestern Nebraska, and the nearby Ellsworth Air Force Base. It will also better serve the residents of Rapid City. The interchange is on the National Highway Freight Network, National Highway System, and the State Preferential Truck Network.

This BUILD project supports economic vitality by improving rural-urban connectivity and is a project that highlights the importance of the Rural Opportunities to Use Transportation for Economic Success (ROUTES) Initiative.

Thank you for any assistance you can provide in funding this grant. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact SDDOT Secretary Bergquist.

Sincerely,

Steve Allender, Mayor
Rapid City, South Dakota



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