

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 10, 2019

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Dear Secretary Chao,

We are writing to express our support for the application submitted by the City of Minot, North Dakota, on behalf of the 3rd Street Northeast Bridge Reconstruction and Rail Raise project for 2019 BUILD grant funding. Thank you for your consideration.

As you may know, stakeholders throughout the Souris River Valley have been hard at work to provide comprehensive, regional protection against the threat of flooding. This undertaking involves partners from all levels of government, as well as the private sector, with efforts spread across several phases. In fact, representatives from your department attended a recent roundtable in Minot, and we appreciate their assistance in identifying funding opportunities for the project's coming phases.

This meeting was the genesis of Minot's application, which seeks to advance a critical component of the region's flood protection efforts. At the same time, the proposed bridge replacement and rail raising provide the opportunity to upgrade local infrastructure for the benefit of the regional and national economies, as the project would improve the resilience of a key east-west rail freight corridor. The receipt of BUILD grant funding would help ensure the delivery of these benefits, while also leveraging significant state and local funding and aiding in the continued effort to secure private support for the overall flood protection project.

Accordingly, we hope Minot's application receives your favorable consideration. Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. Please keep us informed of the review process, and feel free to contact our offices with any updates or inquiries you may have.

Sincerely,



JOHN HOEVEN
U.S. Senator

KEVIN CRAMER
U.S. Senator



KELLY ARMSTRONG
U.S. Congressman