

## United States Senate

July 12, 2018

COMMITTEES  
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION AND  
FORESTRY  
APPROPRIATIONS  
ENERGY AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES  
HOMELAND SECURITY AND  
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS  
INDIAN AFFAIRS

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

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing to you in support of the Kalispell Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with Flathead County and the City of Kalispell's application for a 2018 BUILD grant to fund their project for the Kalispell Bypass: Foys Lake Section.

The seven mile long Kalispell Bypass serves a north-south alternative route around the west side of the City of Kalispell in northwest Montana. Since it was fully connected in 2016, traffic demand has increased significantly. The increase has caused substantial congestion and delays at the Foys Lake Section, which is the transition point from two to four lanes of traffic.

If successful, funding will be used to construct the Foys Lake four-lane section and Foys Lake interchange. Specifically, this project will improve traffic capacity and traffic operations for this section of the bypass. The project is also expected to provide an improved quality of life in the area by enhancing the existing urban transportation network's capacity and operations.

I trust you will give this grant application fair and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,



Steve Daines  
United States Senator