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Michael T. Tooley, Director

Steve Bullock, Governor



July 13, 2018

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

Subject: FY 2018 BUILD Grant Application - Kalispell Bypass

Dear Secretary Chao:

Please consider this letter of support from the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) for the BUILD Grant application submitted by the City of Kalispell for the Kalispell Bypass: Foy's Lake Section. Providing FY 2018 BUILD grant funds will allow construction of the Foy's Lake 4lane section and Interchange, which will improve safety and operations, reduce traffic congestion, and result in fuel savings and emission reduction.

This segment of the Kalispell Bypass is currently an unfunded project in MDT's construction program. However, with the prospect of receiving BUILD Grant funds through our partnership with the City of Kalispell, MDT has committed funding from our core construction program to complete the funding package. The package is estimated at \$5,039,124, which includes \$4,362,874 in National Highway Performance Program funds and \$676,250 in state matching funds. Coupled with the \$15 million BUILD funds requested, MDT's commitment completes the project funding package in the City's application, estimated at \$20,039,124. Additionally, if awarded BUILD funds, MDT will complete any remaining STIP actions to ensure there is no impact to the project schedule.

Thank you for considering BUILD Grant funds for this project.

Sincerely,

Mike Tooley, Director

Montana Department of Transportation

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