

## Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

December 15, 2016

The Honorable Anthony R. Foxx Secretary of Transportation U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E. Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Rickenbacker Inland Port Interstate Connector FASTLANE application. This application would add a third lane in each direction to Alum Creek Drive, a 2.3 mile road between State Route 317 and Groveport Road.

The Columbus Regional Airport Authority (CRAA) has partnered with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), the Franklin County Engineer's Office, and the Norfolk Southern Railway to evaluate critical improvements needed in the Rickenbacker Inland Port area. This application includes comprehensive solutions that would address the area's multimodal transportation needs.

The application seeks to increase the capacity along Alum Creek Drive, a critical north-south connection between Rickenbacker and I-270. A component of USDOT's National Primary Freight Highway System (PHFS) and a state-designated and federally-accepted National Highway System (NHS) Intermodal Connector Route, Alum Creek Drive is an important freight corridor for the region. Widening Alum Creek Drive will help relieve two sources of congestion: the increased traffic associated with the growth of successful businesses and the additional regional truck traffic from the growing activity at the Rickenbacker Intermodal Facility.

The improvements to the transportation infrastructure included in this application are critical to keeping existing businesses and attracting new ones to Central Ohio. The application would also help improve regional and statewide freight transportation. For these reasons, I am requesting the U.S. Department of Transportation consider the application's importance to the future prosperity of the Central Ohio community and our state.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

Steve Stivers

Member of Congress

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