

May 10, 2019

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

Re: Support for the Columbus Crossroads INFRA Application

Dear Secretary Chao,

The City of Worthington strongly supports the Ohio Department of Transportation and the City of Columbus' Infrastructure of Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant application for the Columbus Crossroads project to transform the crossroads of Interstates 70 and 71 in Downtown Columbus and improve freight movement across Ohio and Midwest.

As a member of the member of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, we support this project to revamp a corridor that has been identified as one of the most crash prone in Ohio. The benefits of increased safety, reducing congestion for commuters and pedestrians, and improving access to essential services will boost development opportunities in the Central Ohio region.

The state recently passed a transportation budget that generates more revenue through higher gas user fees and increased registration fees for local governments and electric vehicles. However, this project cannot be completed without leveraging additional funding from the INFRA grants program.

We hope that you will consider the importance of these improvements to the prosperity of our region and state, and the resiliency of the national interstate highway system; by providing funding for this grant.

Sincerely,

Matthew H. Greeson

City Manager

City of Worthington