May 10, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary of Transportation
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:

I write this letter to express our strong support and to reinforce the strong regional support for the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) and City of Columbus joint INFRA grant application for Phase 4 of the Columbus Crossroads project. This Columbus Crossroads project would devote $1.3 billion over multi-phases to transform the crossroads of Interstates 70 and 71 in Downtown Columbus and improve freight movement across Ohio and Midwest.

Clean Fuels Ohio is a statewide non-profit that focused on a wide range of sustainable mobility solutions. These include advanced fuels and vehicles and smart mobility strategies that aim, in part, to increase the overall energy efficiency of the transportation system.

We view this project is a critical component of achieving greater transportation efficiency and improving the lives of Columbus residents. This will be achieved not only by improving traffic flow but also by creating a connection between the German Village just south of downtown and downtown itself. This physical connection will facilitate and encourage much more pedestrian mode of travel between these heavily populated areas and Columbus economic hub of downtown. It also will enable use of other modes such as scooters and bikes. This promises to greatly reduce reliance on person cars and also the need for parking downtown. All of this will reduce energy consumption and pollution locally and regionally generated by transportation.

Thanks for your consideration of this important project!

Sincerely,

Sam Spofforth, Executive Director

cc: Mr. Dan DeBono, Chief Infrastructure Funding Officer, U.S. Department of Transportation,
    1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E. Washington, D.C. 20590

The Trusted Advisor & Collective Voice of Ohio's Clean Transportation Industry