

July 2, 2019

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

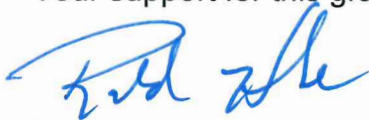
FY 2019 BUILD DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM

The North Dakota Department of Transportation supports the Polk County/Traill County Bridge Replacement project. If successful, BUILD funds would be leveraged with a non-federal match to replace Nielsville Bridge 5767, which spans the Red River between Polk County, Minnesota, and Traill County, North Dakota. This bridge was constructed in 1939 and permanently closed in 2015 due to structural integrity issues.

The benefits of the project are consistent with the goals of the new BUILD program of increasing public safety, improving the condition of existing transportation facilities, supporting economic competitiveness, and improving quality of life.

This bridge has a major impact on agricultural movements in the area. With Sugar beets being a staple crop for the area, at least 13,000 tons of sugar beets are hauled from Traill County to a piling station in Polk County located just north of Nielsville, Minnesota. Rebuilding the structure will positively impact the agricultural industry in the region.

Your support for this grant application is greatly appreciated.



RONALD J. HENKE, P.E., INTERIM DIRECTOR

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