

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 28, 2020

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

Dear Secretary Chao:

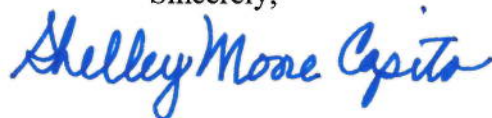
I write in regards to the West Virginia Division of Highway's (WVDOH) application for funding through the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant program. Funding will support the completion of 10.6 miles of the Corridor H project from Kerens to Parsons in Tucker County, West Virginia.

The Corridor H project is emblematic of the inordinate impact infrastructure projects can have on states like West Virginia. The Appalachian Development Highway System (ADHS), of which Corridor H is a part, is predicated on the economic benefits that result from supporting access to geographically isolated regions of the country through highway infrastructure. Both Congress and the U.S. Department of Transportation recognize this, as evidenced by funding provided to the Department of Transportation in the Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations bills to help complete ADHS and the previous award of BUILD grants to projects like Corridor H, including this specific portion.

As is the case in states like West Virginia with difficult terrain, the cost of constructing new highway infrastructure is steep. The WVDOH has done its part, spending millions of dollars toward the completion of Corridor H. Further federal funding is needed, however, if the project is to be completed and its goals of easing the transport of people and goods to and from the Mid-Atlantic coast realized. In this instance, INFRA funding will assist with the completion of a portion of Corridor H from Kerens to Parsons, West Virginia.

Infrastructure, whether it is ports, highways, or broadband, is critical to the economic success of West Virginia and the entire nation. Federal partnerships with local and state entities can leverage the investment necessary to spur growth and provide opportunity. I hope you will give the West Virginia Division of Highway's application your full consideration.

Sincerely,



Shelley Moore Capito  
United States Senator