

United States Senate

May 11, 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 am writing to you in support of the City-County of Butte-Silver Bow (BSB) and the Port of Montana's application for Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation grant funds for rail and road expansion at the Port of Montana and Montana Connections Business Development Park.

Founded in 1988 by BSB, the Port of Montana, is a port authority created to increase economic development opportunities and job creation within the transportation industry. Additionally, Montana Connections Business Development Park, which is home to the Port of Montana, is an ideal location for industrial development and has a proven track record of successful development efforts and job creation.

This application is in addition to 8,600 lineal feet of interchange, storage, lead and spur track added to Montana Connections in the summer of 2020 prior to BUILD funds being awarded. This portion of the project has been funded by local tax increment funds.

If this application is successful, funds will be used expand existing infrastructure, rail access, and increase trans-load capacity at the Port. Specifically, this proposal would bring rail access to an additional 130 acres creating 22,500 lineal feed of tract, improve vehicle access to ten parcels of Montana Connections, and expand broadband services.

I trust you will give this application fair and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,



Steve Daines
United States Senator