



July 16, 2018

The Honorable Elaine Chao, Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing this letter in support of Copiah County's grant application for the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant program. The county possesses the necessary leadership that will ensure the success of this project. The proposed project will rehabilitate existing infrastructure.

These funds will be utilized to radically improve motor vehicle transportation reliability and safety in an economically disadvantaged rural region. This is especially important to us at Copiah-Lincoln Community College because many of our staff and students travel to our campus via these rural roads. It is imperative that we create a dependable network of safe routes to schools, jobs and to other points of basic needs for our citizens. As a community college leader, I can attest that transportation access is one of the top barriers to rural Mississippians continuing their education and being able to make a larger economic impact not only in our county but throughout our state and nation.

I, respectfully, urge you to give this project strong consideration for the BUILD grant. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jane G. Hulon, Ph.D.
President

JGH:bjp