



Illinois Department of Transportation

Office of the Secretary
2300 South Dirksen Parkway / Springfield, Illinois / 62764
Telephone 217/782-5597

July 12, 2019

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590-9898

Dear Secretary Chao:

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) supports the City of Bloomington's "Hamilton Road Project" application for FY 2019 funding through the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) program. The application seeks \$5.325 million in federal BUILD funds for the project, with a match of \$2.425 million from non-Federal sources.

The proposed improvements would complete Bloomington's priority East-West corridor, safely connecting rural communities and the City's residents on the southwest side to jobs at many businesses, including one of the area's largest employers, State Farm Insurance.

This project will mitigate congestion, enhance safety, and reduce maintenance needs on the transportation system while improving quality of life and enhancing the area's economic opportunities. Because of the project, Bloomington will close two at-grade crossings in the City, close an unsafe intersection that is a 5% accident location, and eliminate one at-grade crossing for many of the region's motorists accessing the campus of State Farm Insurance. The completion of Constitution Trail, a multi-use facility, as part of the project will connect residents and tourists alike to recreational assets and jobs.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Holly Ostdick at 217-557-4145.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Osman, Omer".

Omer M. Osman, P.E.
Acting Secretary