June 20, 2019

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

Re: Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) SR 60 Passing Lanes 2019 BUILD Grant Application

Dear Secretary Chao,

MetroPlan Orlando supports FDOT’s submission of the State Road (SR) 60 Passing Lanes project for a 2019 BUILD grant. SR 60 is an important east-west traveler and freight corridor which provides critical connections to state and nationally significant facilities (I-75, US 27, US 441, and I-95). This project focuses on a rural, two-lane segment in Osceola County facing serious safety challenges due to existing constraints and dangerous driver passing behaviors. During the period 2011-2018, there were a total of 109 crashes resulting in 10 fatalities, 54 injuries and over $1.4 million in property damage. The proposed passing lanes project will save lives, improve the reliability, and mitigate disruption on this strategic intermodal corridor.

The passing lanes project is consistent with the adopted 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan and local comprehensive plans and has the support of officials along the corridor. This project is ready to go with concept design and cost estimate approvals with minimal impacts projected and significant long-term benefits expected. The requested BUILD funding is critical to advance the next steps of this project.

I strongly urge your favorable consideration of this 2019 BUILD grant application for improvements along a key segment of SR 60 in Florida. Your support for this project will provide for a safer and more resilient transportation network for Central Florida residents, visitors and freight/commercial vehicle operators.

Sincerely,

Gary Huttman, AICP  
Executive Director
July 2, 2019

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington DC, 20590

RE: FDOT SR 60 Passing Lanes 2019 BUILD Grant Application

Dear Secretary Chao,

Osceola County supports FDOT’s submission of the State Road (SR) 60 Passing Lanes project for a 2019 BUILD grant. SR 60 is an important east-west roadway within Osceola County and provides critical connections to state and nationally significant facilities such as I-75, US 27, US 441, and I-95. The project focuses on a rural, two-lane segment that faces serious safety challenges due to existing constraints and dangerous driver-passing behaviors. Between the years 2011-2018, there were a total of 109 crashes resulting in 10 fatalities, 54 injuries and over $1.4 million in property damage. The proposed passing lane project will save lives, improve the reliability, and mitigate disruption on this strategic intermodal corridor.

As one of the fastest growing counties in the state of Florida, Osceola County is in full support of the proposed improvements outlined in the 2019 BUILD grant application for SR 60. Your support for this project will provide for a safer and more resilient transportation network for Central Florida residents, visitors and freight/commercial vehicle operators.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me at 407-742-2385.

Sincerely,

Donald S. Fisher
Osceola County Manager

/to/is