United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES: APPROPRIATIONS

BUDGET

HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

HOMELAND SECURITY
AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

April 7, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

RE: CFDA number 20.934; Funding Opportunity Number NSFHP-16-FASTLANE16

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am pleased to write in support of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's (WisDOT) application for funding through the 2016 Fostering Advancements in Shipping and Transportation for the Long-term Achievement of National Efficiencies (FASTLANE) grant program. Funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation will assist in WisDOT's efforts to repair, revitalize, and expand Interstate 39/90 (I-39/90) in Dane and Rock counties.

Located in southern Wisconsin, I-39/90 is a gateway to the state and an important route for commuters, business entities, and tourists traveling between Chicago and the Minneapolis/St. Paul area, in addition to other destinations in the southern, eastern, and western part of Wisconsin. This interstate further functions as a key link in a national freight corridor, with heavy trucks constituting roughly 28 percent of its traffic.

Despite its regional and national significance to commerce and commuters, I-39/90 has not been fully reconstructed since first opening in the 1960s. It is my understanding that its infrastructure has gradually deteriorated with time, making necessary the replacement and repair of road materials, bridges, entrance and exit ramps, and other important structures. With funding assistance, WisDOT seeks to institute these improvements, as well as increase the number of general purpose lanes from four to six between the City of Madison and the Illinois state border. Specifically, funding will assist in accelerating the completion of a critical portion of the interstate near Janesville, which will help to ensure timely completion of the entire corridor project. WisDOT is confident this reconstruction project will improve I-39/90's traffic flow and, most importantly, the safety of its travelers.

I strongly support projects that address our nation's pressing infrastructure needs and contribute to greater public safety in Wisconsin. For this reason, I respectfully request that full and fair consideration be given to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's application for FASTLANE funding. Please keep me updated on the progress of this application and contact my Madison office should you have further questions or concerns. You can reach staff in my Madison office at 30 W. Mifflin Street, Suite 700, Madison WI 53703, by phone at (608) 264-5338, and by email at projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator