

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 25, 2017

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 pleased to support the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT)'s application for Infrastructure For Rebuilding America (INFRA) Grant funding through the U.S. Department of Transportation. The INFRA program provides funding to address critical highway and bridge projects.

Extending more than 1,500 miles, Interstate 94 (I-94) is a key component of the National Highway Freight Network connecting major U.S. cities like Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, and Minneapolis. This corridor plays a vital role in the local economy, connecting workers to their jobs and facilitating the transportation of goods throughout the region. WisDOT will use INFRA funding to support construction of a portion of the I-94 North-South expansion project in Kenosha, Racine, and Milwaukee Counties.

It is my understanding that the current expansion project will replace frontage roads, ramps, pavement, bridges, and other structures, and redesign interchanges to improve safety, traffic flow, and operational deficiencies. The number of general purpose lanes will also increase from six to eight from the Wisconsin/Illinois state line to the City of Milwaukee. The completed project will improve the efficiency and reliability of this critical network, ensuring manufacturers and small businesses are able to transport their products to the markets they serve. INFRA funding would allow for the completion of the I-94 North-South Project by 2021 rather than 2032.

Maintaining our transportation infrastructure is crucial to continued economic growth in Wisconsin. For this reason I ask that you give full and fair consideration to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's application. Please keep Jessica Sielaff in my Madison office updated on the progress of this application and contact her should you have further questions or concerns. She may be reached at 30 West Mifflin Street, Suite 700, Madison, Wisconsin 53703, by phone at 608-264-5338, or by email at projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator