



May 15, 2020

Secretary Elaine L. Chao
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

This letter serves as the Letter of Commitment for the \$2.7 Million in local match funds from the City of Eugene for the Franklin Blvd Opportunity Zone Corridor project. The source of the match will be from a combination of local voter-approved bond measure funding and system development charges (SDCs).

Bond Measure to Fix Streets: Eugene voters support preserving our streets. In November of 2017, voters approved the third five-year street repair bond measure. The 2017 bond measure, which started in 2019, promises construction on 91 projects through at least 2023. Knowing the degrading pavement condition on Franklin Blvd, that the Franklin Blvd Transformation planning project would be complete, and the City of Eugene would be applying for a BUILD grant, \$1,423,000 for Franklin Blvd was strategically included in the 2017 bond measure. The Franklin Blvd Opportunity Zone Corridor project will help leverage federal funding to bring the facility up to a state of good repair while also reaching our safety goals.

System Development Charges (SDCs): SDCs are fee scheduled charges applied to new development to help offset the impact of development, redevelopment or an intensification of use. They are collected on new development in the city and are used to fund that portion of the construction of infrastructure required to support new developments. These SDCs help the City provide increased capacity needs and recoup a portion of the community's investment in specific infrastructure reserve capacity that is already in place. For a project to be eligible for SDC funding, it must be listed in the City of Eugene's Transportation System Plan (TSP). With Franklin Blvd project numbers: #MM-19, #PB-508 and #S-13 in the Eugene TSP, I have committed \$1.3 Million in SDC funding for the Franklin Blvd Opportunity Zone Corridor project accordingly.

The restrictions associated with the bond measure and SDC funding is that the \$2.7 Million from City of Eugene local funds must be used on Franklin Blvd in Eugene. Eugene is a small city, in fact, if we were applying separately, both Eugene and Springfield would be considered rural under the BUILD definition. As a small City, it is rare that we are so well positioned to match a federal grant at a competitive rate. With this letter of commitment, I urge you to fund the Franklin Blvd Opportunity Zone Corridor project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jenifer Willer", is written over a horizontal blue line.

Jenifer Willer (May 15, 2020)

Jenifer Willer, P.E.

Acting City Engineer