

JON HUSTED
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United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 27, 2026

The Honorable Sean Duffy
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

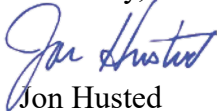
Dear Secretary Duffy,

Thank you for your dedication to transforming local community development across the nation. I write today to urge your full and fair consideration of the FY 2026 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Program application for the Fort Washington Way Project. The project, a partnership between Hamilton County, the City of Cincinnati, and the Cincinnati Regional Chamber, will advance project delivery and construct an elevated cap structure over Interstate 71 / U.S. Route 50 (locally known as Fort Washington Way) between Vine Street and Walnut Street with room for all interior Tunnel Operating Systems to be built in the next phase. The cap will connect Cincinnati's central business district to our vibrant riverfront development, which is home to the Cincinnati Reds, the Cincinnati Bengals, and scores of businesses.

Over the last 25 years, Cincinnati has seen an incredible revitalization of the riverfront into a regional destination for entertainment and recreation. Achieving this long-term vision was made possible by our community's project to narrow Fort Washington Way, opening up 45 acres of land for redevelopment and reconnecting the historic street grid over the highway. Hamilton County, in close partnership with the City of Cincinnati, will use these grant funds to support the planning and design, advance engineering of the physical capping structure and associated safety systems, design the public space above and surrounding surface transportation safety improvements, and construct the first phase of this innovative project. This initiative will enhance economic development, improve safety for all modes of transportation, and improve the lives of our citizen-driven enterprises that will bolster the region's competitiveness.

I again urge your full and fair consideration of this proposal. Thank you for your work to support the infrastructure of our nation.

Sincerely,



Jon Husted
United States Senator