

Mike Crapo
United States Senator
239 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

James E. Risch
United States Senator
483 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510



Mike Simpson
Member of Congress
2312 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

June 27, 2019

The Honorable Elaine Chao, Secretary
Office of the Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington D.C. 20590

Re: FY19 BUILD Grant Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

We write in support of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes (Tribes) Department of Transportation BUILD grant application to fund the Fort Hall Connect: Strengthening Community through Transportation Investment.

The Tribes' project will make needed improvements to Ross Fork and Eagle roads, which serve vital economic development corridors of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation. The project will work in conjunction with the Idaho Transportation Department's planned 2021 reconstruction of Exit 80 off Interstate 15 (I-15).

We are told this project will enhance and upgrade the road system in and around exit 80 for economic and community benefits. It will also improve the safe movement of traffic from exit 80 off I-15 to Highway 91 during winter hazards or when the Interstate is closed down. In the last seven years, there have been 29 instances of traffic being diverted off exit 80 onto Ross Fork road and to Highway 91.

We urge the Department of Transportation to give this application all due consideration.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Mike Crapo in blue ink.

MIKE CRAPO
United States Senator

Handwritten signature of James E. Risch in blue ink.

JAMES E. RISCH
United States Senator

Handwritten signature of Mike Simpson in blue ink.

MIKE SIMPSON
Member of Congress