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## United States Senate

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

June 3, 2020

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

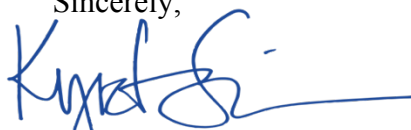
I write regarding the application submitted by the City of Phoenix for a grant through the Department of Transportation's (DOT) Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant program to fund the 35th Avenue Safety Corridor Project.

The 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue corridor is a high traffic area in the heart of Phoenix that stretches 3.2 miles between I-10 and Camelback Road. It home to 13 schools and a key access point to Grand Canyon University, a major employer in Phoenix. Historically, the corridor is one of the worst locations for pedestrian safety in Phoenix. Between 2014 and 2018, there were 40 pedestrian-involved crashes, including 7 fatal accidents, in the segment of 35th Avenue between I-10 and Camelback Road. Modernizing the 35th Avenue corridor is essential to improve commute times, support economic development opportunities within the corridor, and provide safe access for all transportation modes.

The 35th Avenue Safety Corridor Project will create a safe, efficient, and modern corridor for all modes of transportation. By adding pedestrian crosswalks and improved street lighting, the project will guarantee the safety of children in the surrounding schools, including Grand Canyon University. By updating traffic signals, enhancing medians, and making general road improvements, the project will improve traffic flows and reduce the risk of accidents. By installing fiber optic cables along the corridor, the project will provide residents and businesses access to high-speed internet, supporting economic development in the area. Overall, the project will ultimately create a more resilient community by implementing infrastructure that will continuously benefit our city for many years into the future.

The 35th Avenue Safety Corridor Project will modernize and improve a high crash corridor in Phoenix, while supporting continued economic development and an improved quality of life for Phoenix residents. In accordance with all existing agency rules, regulations, and ethical guidelines, I urge you to give this proposal full and fair consideration as you make this important funding decision.

Sincerely,



Kyrsten Sinema  
United States Senator