

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

May 15, 2020

**BUILD Grant Application submitted by Spokane County for  
Bigelow Gulch Corridor Safety and Mobility Project**

Dear Secretary Chao;

I am writing to express the support of Spokane Regional Transportation Council (SRTC) for the BUILD Grant application for the **Bigelow Gulch Corridor Safety and Mobility Project** submitted by **Spokane County**. The SRTC Board of Directors discussed the BUILD grant application at their May 14 meeting and approved a measure to express support for this regionally significant project.

This application is for design and construction on the remaining **Bigelow Gulch Road Project** which includes widening and realigning the corridor from two to four lanes, improving dangerous intersections, and installation of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) to tie into existing city and state traffic management systems. The realignment and construction of 0.5 miles of Sullivan Road (Forker Road) between Progress Road and Wellesley Avenue includes the addition of paved shoulders. Additionally, a multi-use pathway on the west side and sidewalk on the east side to facilitate connections to a local middle school and high school.

Additionally, the Bigelow Gulch project outcomes are in alignment with goals and strategies as listed below from SRTC's Metropolitan Transportation Plan known as *Horizon 2040*.

**Increases Regional Economic Competitiveness**

- Improves access to jobs through greater connectivity to growing commercial and industrial employment centers at either end of the corridor.
- Increases the potential and attractiveness of inland port areas and intermodal facilities located at either end of the corridor.

**Improves Travel Time Reliability**

- Improves travel times and travel time reliability for residents, freight, and commodities (such as agricultural freight regularly traveling through the area).

**Improves Safety**

- Improves safety for all roadway users by eliminating sub-standard roadway curves.

**Improve Mode Shift**

- Encourages mode shift for school trips at the east end of the corridor through the implementation of attractive and safe bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project.

Respectfully,



Sabrina C. Minshall, AICP  
SRTC Executive Director