



City of Cashmere

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October 11, 2017

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

Re: Support for the Apple Capital Loop INFRA grant

Dear Secretary Chao:

On behalf of the citizens of the City of Cashmere, Washington, we urge support of the City of Wenatchee's application for the Apple Capital Loop INFRA grant.

The City of Cashmere is to the west of Wenatchee and a large percentage of Cashmere residents commute daily to work in Wenatchee. The medical center, hospital, government offices, and businesses in Wenatchee will generate many trips on the Apple Capital Loop benefitting Cashmere residents. Emergency vehicle response to and from Cashmere will be greatly enhanced.

This project offers our region, state, Federal funders, and private investors opportunities to realize innovations in infrastructure, permitting and leverage. It opens developable properties with adopted plans in place that have the potential to bring over \$500 million in reinvestment in our region. We may be rural, but our industries, innovation and products touch the nation and world.

For all of these reasons, this project has been appropriately identified as a "game changer" by our community, and our region.

Thank you for your consideration of this important application.

Sincerely,

Jeff Gomes
Mayor