



City of Leavenworth

700 Highway 2 / Post Office Box 287
Leavenworth, Washington 98826
(509) 548-5275 / Fax: (509) 548-6429
Web: www.cityofleavenworth.com

City Council

Cheryl K. Farivar - *Mayor*
Elmer Larsen
Carolyn Wilson - *Mayor Pro Tem*
Gretchen Wearne
Mia Bretz
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Richard Brinkman
Sharon Waters
Joel Walinski - *City Administrator*

October 12, 2017

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

RE: Support for the Apple Capital Loop INFRA grant

Dear Secretary Chao:

On behalf of the City Council, residents, and businesses of the City of Leavenworth in Washington State, I urge support for the City of Wenatchee's application for the Apple Capital Loop Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant.

The City of Leavenworth has become a pillar of the tourism industry in the Pacific Northwest. Today, it is estimated that two million tourists visit Leavenworth each year. Many of these visitors travel throughout the region and a number stay in Wenatchee as it is the largest City in Chelan County and short 30-minute drive from Downtown Leavenworth. The completion of the Apple Capital Loop will allow both visitors and our local residents to navigate through the heavy traffic when visiting the Cities of Wenatchee and East Wenatchee.

The City of Leavenworth recently completed a Housing Study with an emphasis on "affordable housing" in which it was found that a large percentage of our local workforce commutes from the Wenatchee/East Wenatchee area to jobs in Leavenworth. Again, the completion of the Apple Capital Loop will reduce the time spent in the traffic of their daily commute.

Because of the smaller size of Leavenworth, many of our residents work in the employment centers located in the Wenatchee area. Additionally, Wenatchee is the location of the major medical facilities and shopping that serve the entire area.

In conclusion, please accept this letter on behalf of myself and the Leavenworth City Council as unanimous support for the Apple Capital Loop INFRA grant.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Kelley Farivar
City of Leavenworth, Mayor