



Office of the Mayor, Frank J. Kuntz
(509) 888-6200 Phone
(509) 888-3636 Fax
Wenatchee City Hall
129 South Chelan
P.O. Box 519
Wenatchee, WA 98807-0519
Website: www.wenatcheewa.gov

October 27, 2017

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

Re: Support for the Apple Capital Loop INFRA Grant

Dear Secretary Chao:

The City of Wenatchee is very pleased to submit this INFRA application on behalf of our region. Our valley consists of two cities and two counties. Coming together to invest in backbone infrastructure that supports the whole region has illustrated how we truly can leverage the strength and capacity of each partner to create a winning project serving our community, our businesses, and the economy that impacts our nation. We believe strongly in taking intentional action to plan for the future in terms of ensuring infrastructure is in place to support business before it harms business. We have a track record of performance as it is in our culture to deliver cost effective and innovative solutions to problems and to prepare for the future. Given we have a worldwide presence in our fruit industry and national presence with our hydropower assets, we are requesting federal investment in our region to support the national highway system's effectiveness as it pertains to the region's economy. This request is based on transportation needs that support the nation's objectives and also would put a disproportionate burden on our community if it were to be funded entirely locally as with most rural areas. Our community is also experiencing significant growth which is taking an existing problem and pushing the transportation system into failure mode.

Our application is bold; however, when you think about the relatively small federal investment in our urban area throughout history, we believe your investment in our area will not only satisfy national objectives, but will create a return on investment that will be realized for years to come.

Sincerely,

Frank J. Kuntz
Mayor

Apple Capital of the World