



February 11, 2019

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 the North Central Washington emergency medical system, we urge support for the City of Wenatchee's application for the Apple Capital Loop INFRA grant. Our company, LifeLine Ambulance, provides basic and advanced life support in the Wenatchee Valley and north to the Canadian border. We believe this grant, if provided, will significantly relieve conected traffic issues and can save the lives of our patients in an emergency medical situation.

Wenatchee is located 150 miles east of Seattle in Central Washington and is at the crossroads of highways going east to Spokane, west to Seattle, north to British Columbia, and south to Yakima and the Tri-Cities. The City of Wenatchee serves as a key transportation hub for our fruit industry and is a major crew change and switching station for the Burlington Northern Santa Fe mainline that connects Chicago with the Northwest Ports.

The Apple Capital Loop project is the result of years of planning by regional jurisdictions and broad community engagement in the Wenatchee Valley. The project will create significant new opportunities for continued economic growth by opening access to develop properties and potentially bring investments of over \$500 million to our region. We may be rural in location, but our industries, innovations and products touch the nation and the world.

Thank you for your consideration of this application. This INFRA Grant will significantly advance the health, safety and economic welfare of this community for decades to come.

We can be reached at 509.293.1576 for further questions or information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Walker", is written over a white background.

Michael L. Walker
Chairman