

THE WENATCHEE WORLD

Oct. 26, 2017

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

Subject: Letter of support for the Apple Capital Loop INFRA Grant Application, Wenatchee, Washington

Dear Secretary Chao

As the publisher of The Wenatchee World, the leading news and information source for North Central Washington State, I would like to express my wholehearted support for the Apple Capital Loop INFRA Grant application.

I am confident that the grant funds would be prudently and effectively used to solve some crucial transportation issues in our valley. We are seeing tremendous growth and our transportation network is stretched to the breaking point.

The Apple Capital Loop Project identifies some major areas where improvements are needed. Completing the loop project will enhance economic development in our two communities — Wenatchee and East Wenatchee — but will also improve safety at the same time.

Wenatchee is an island only accessible by two bridges, with four lanes of traffic each way. A major benefit of the proposed project is the development of a bypass, which will provide a third way out of the city and thereby significantly alleviating a growing traffic problem.

The Wenatchee Valley's Apple Capital Loop Project represents a highly collaborative effort among the two counties and two cities and enjoys tremendous community support.

I believe that the project is worthy of an INFRA Grant. As rural communities in central Washington State, I believe this fits with the Department of Transportation's goal of serving America's rural economies.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rufus Woods". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Rufus Woods, Publisher
The Wenatchee World