

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 11, 2018

Mr. Robert Mariner
Deputy Director
Office of Infrastructure, Finance, and Innovation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 10590

Dear Mr. Mariner,

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the FY18 BUILD grant application submitted by Butler County, PA. It is my understanding that if awarded, the county intends to use the grant funds to help offset the costs associated with the Gateway 228 project, which will support critical transportation improvements along the Route 228 corridor.

In recent years, southern Butler County has experienced immense growth, particularly along Route 228. This 26-mile economic thread is the County's primary link between several burgeoning economic activity centers, including southern Butler County, the fastest growing community in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and Shell Chemical's \$6 billion ethane cracker plant in neighboring Beaver County. Butler County is seeking BUILD funds to address the most significant transportation challenges along Route 228. These challenges include inadequate capacity, an excessive number of vehicle accidents and fatalities, and a lack of access to key employment centers, schools, and residential neighborhoods. Due to the county's rural setting, a reliable and safe roadway network is vital to economic development and job growth. The requested funds will connect rural residents to suburban employment centers, impacting the flexibility and mobility of the workforce.

Once again, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the aforementioned grant application, and I respectfully ask that you give Butler County's application all due consideration. In the event that this application is selected for funding, please direct a copy of your award notification letter to my Grants Coordinator, Steve Meredith. Steve can be reached via e-mail at Steve_Meredith@toomey.senate.gov, by phone at 412-803-3501, by fax at 412-803-3504, or through the mailing address 310 Grant Street, Suite 1440, Pittsburgh, PA 15219.

Sincerely,



Pat Toomey
U.S. Senator