Building All-Season Economic Development (BASED) in Bayfield County
SUPPORT AND COMMITMENT LETTERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Contact Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin Department of Transportation</td>
<td>Secretary, Craig Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAVRC</td>
<td>Interim Executive Director, Robert Fischer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congress of the United States</td>
<td>Congressman, Sean Duffy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States Senate</td>
<td>Senator, Tammy Baldwin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin Legislature</td>
<td>Senator Janet Bewley, Representative Beth Meyers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Department of Agriculture</td>
<td>Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest Supervisor, Paul Strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin Dept of Natural Resources</td>
<td>Division of Forestry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chief State Forester, Fred Souba, Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States Department of Interior</td>
<td>National Park Service, Apostle Islands National Lakeshore Superintendent, Bob Krumenaker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin County Forests Association</td>
<td>President, Norman K Bickford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Lakes Timber Professional Assoc.</td>
<td>President, Max Ericson, Director Henry Schienbeck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood Industry Collaborative</td>
<td>Administrator, Crystal Rohde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bayfield County Economic Development</td>
<td>Director, Cole Rabska</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visions Northwest</td>
<td>Administrator, Crystal Rohde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Barnes</td>
<td>Chairman, Christine Webb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Iron River</td>
<td>Chairman, Steve Probst</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Drummond</td>
<td>Chairman, Royden Bloom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa</td>
<td>Chairman, Richard Peterson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Lakes Community Clinic</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer, Reba Rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NW WI Workforce Investment Board</td>
<td>Mari-Kay Nabozny, Chief Executive Officer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
July 11, 2019

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

Subject: Letter of Support – Building All Season Economic Development (BASED), Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Funding Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

On behalf of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, we are pleased to submit this Letter of Support for Bayfield County, Wisconsin’s application for a grant to help fund their Building All Season Economic Development (BASED) project under the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) program.

This proposed project will improve a 22-mile stretch of road in order to provide the local forest industry year-round access to the county’s forests and to increase the overall safety along the road. The southern segment of County Highway A and the western segment of County Highway N provide access to nearly 30% of the forest lands within the county. During spring thaws; however, the road’s foundation is not able to support heavy loads and approximately two months of every year the county must impose weight limits which prevent logging trucks from accessing the forest lands.

This proposed project includes plans for reconstructing these roads to ensure they are usable in all-seasons. Improvements include new base, surfacing, paved road edges and improved shoulders which will improve safety, rideability and all-season access for trucking. These improvements will create immediate savings for local businesses, and thereby strengthening the county’s rural communities.

This project’s improvements are consistent with the BUILD program’s goals and those of our organization. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation is responsible for the safe and efficient movement of people and goods throughout the state of Wisconsin. The proposed transportation improvements in this application will greatly improve safety, mobility of commercial traffic, and rural economic growth in Bayfield County.

Thank you for your consideration and approval of this application.

Sincerely,

Craig Thompson
Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
July 10, 2019

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

Re: BAYFIELD COUNTY WISCONSIN AV PROJECT, LETTER OF SUPPORT

Dear Secretary Chao:

The Megaregion AV Research Coalition (MAVRC) and our partners support the County of Bayfield, Wisconsin in their "BASED in Bayfield" BUILD project. MAVRC is prepared to provide the necessary expertise and resources to accomplish this corridor Autonomous Vehicle (AV) plan and work with the County to implement the project in the years ahead to serve as a rural template and example to other communities on how to incorporate AV planning into new construction.

MAVRC is excited by Bayfield County's forward-looking vision to incorporate innovative connected and automated vehicle (CAV) technologies, especially as it relates to supporting the Northwest Regional Planning Commission's 5-Year Coordinated Transit Plan, as well as supporting the recommendations advanced by Governor Scott Walker's Steering Committee on Autonomous and Connected Vehicle Testing and Deployment, which clearly promotes the entire state of Wisconsin as "Open for CAV Deployment" (Recommendation D).

Based in Madison, Wisconsin, MAVRC was founded by the Wisconsin AV Proving Ground as a national coalition of public, private, and academic institutions committed to developing a safe path to the deployment of AV technologies throughout the U.S.

Sincerely,

Robert Fischer  
Interim Executive Director  
Megaregion Autonomous Vehicle Research Coalition
July 1, 2019

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

Re: Building All Season Economic Development (BASED) in Bayfield County, WI

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing in support of the application of Bayfield County, Wisconsin for a US DOT BUILD grant. Bayfield County is a rural community in Northwest Wisconsin encompassing vast tracts of County, State, private forests and portions of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.

Transportation infrastructure is critical to any economy. One of the most important industries in Northwest Wisconsin is forestry. According the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources data, the forestry industry has an output of $24.7 billion. With over 800,000 acres in forested lands, Bayfield county places high priority on its highways to support this vital industry.

Reconstruction of County Highway A from Iron River to Highway N and then west to Highway 27 will provide year-round transportation options for forestry and construction work in this region. Bayfield County is the second largest county in Wisconsin covering 1500 square miles. Highway 63, located on the eastern side of the county is currently the only all-season highway going south of US 2 in the County. Presently all county roads are closed to heavy traffic for approximately 75 days a year as frost comes out of the ground and road bans are in place.

Furthermore, crippling rain storms in both 2016 and 2018 have placed higher importance on these routes for both emergency services and commerce as residence, tourists and shippers contend with lengthy detours. Improvements on this existing county highway will support commerce, economic development opportunities and improve safety for county residents, visitors and travelers through improved construction standards and increased durability.

It is my hope you will consider the Bayfield County’s BASED in Bayfield BUILD project. Thank you for your time and consideration of this application. I would like to be kept updated on the progress of this grant. If you would please provide updates to my Outreach Representative, Jim Miller at jim.miller@mail.house.gov that would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Sean P. Duffy  
Member of Congress
June 25, 2018

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

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am pleased to support the application of Bayfield County for a 2018 US Department of Transportation BUILD grant. Reconstruction of County Highway A from Iron River to Highway N and then west to Highway 27 will support commerce, economic development opportunities and improve safety for county residents, visitors and travelers.

Bayfield County is Wisconsin’s second largest county geographically. Located in northwest Wisconsin, Bayfield County is also the largest public lands forestry county in the State. County acreage is over 170,000 acres with national forest making up over 270,000 acres. Once industrial and private forest lands are considered, the total forested acreage increases to almost 80 percent of the County.

Each spring, Bayfield County highways are closed to heavy traffic for 60-75 days as the result of road bans put in place to protect the roads, as Bayfield County does not have the funds to build the roads to a sufficient standard. Bayfield County is proposing a 22-mile improvement project that would create a link between Highway 27 and US 2. This road improvement will allow year-round access on these two highways, allowing loggers to continue to transport timber throughout the spring. As a result, immediate savings for local business will be realized and revenue streams for local government will see an improvement.

Likewise, Highways A and N have economic significance to the region. The County will use BUILD grant funds to improve construction standards, thereby increasing durability, improving safety and reducing maintenance costs. With new year-round transportation options for forestry and construction industries available, timber stumpage will see an increase and new economic development opportunities will be created in a crucial part of Bayfield County.

I strongly support transportation and economic development in rural communities. For this reason, I respectfully request that full and fair consideration be given to Bayfield County’s application for a US DOT BUILD grant. Please keep Jessica Sielaff in my Madison office updated on the progress of this application and contact her should you have further questions or concerns. She may be reached at 30 West Mifflin Street, Suite 700, Madison, Wisconsin 53703, by phone at 608-264-5338, or by email at projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator
July 2, 2019

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

Re: Building All Season Economic Development (BASED) in Bayfield County, WI

Dear Secretary Chao:

As the representatives of Bayfield County, we write to offer our support for the application of Bayfield County, Wisconsin for a US DOT BUILD grant in 2019. Bayfield County is a rural community in Northwestern Wisconsin. This grant would provide funding for much needed infrastructure improvements in Bayfield County, enhancing both quality of life for residents and economic development in the area.

Reconstruction of County Highway A from Iron River to Highway N and then west to Highway 27 will provide year-round transportation options for forestry and construction work in a crucial part of Bayfield County. Bayfield County is the second largest geographic county in Wisconsin, covering 1500 square miles. Highway 63, located in the east, is currently the only All-Season highway going south of US 2 in the county. Presently, all county roads are closed to heavy traffic for approximately 75 days a year as frost comes out of the ground and road bans are in place.

Our community places a very high priority on transportation infrastructure. It is critical to maintain roads in order to support our forest and tourism industries. Improvements on this existing country highway will support commerce, economic development opportunities and improve safety for county residents, visitors and travelers through improved construction standards and increased durability.

As the State Senator and State Representative for Bayfield County, we fully recognize the significance Highways A and N provide to the region’s economy, and we enthusiastically extend our support for Bayfield County’s DOT BUILD grant application. This road improvement will create immediate savings for local businesses and improve revenue streams for local government benefitting from year-round access on these two county highways.

We strongly encourage you to consider selecting Bayfield County’s BASED in Bayfield project for the DOT BUILD grant. If you would like any additional information about this worthy project, please do not hesitate to contact either of us directly.

Sincerely,

Janet Bewley  
State Senator  
25th Senate District

Beth Meyers  
State Representative  
74th Assembly District
Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary, US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest (CNNF) supports the application of Bayfield County, Wisconsin for a Department of Transportation Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant in 2019 related to improvements to Bayfield County Highways A and N.

Maintenance of local transportation routes including Bayfield County Highways A and N are important to sustain the management of CNNF. This management includes commercial timber harvest and hauling of forest products to various raw material consumers within the region. These highways run almost the entire length of the west side of the Washburn Ranger District on the CNNF. Presently all county roads are closed to heavy traffic for approximately 75 days a year as frost comes out of the ground. Well maintained and properly constructed transportation corridors, which allow year round commercial hauling, will improve the overall salability of National Forest Timber and enhance the opportunity to consider commercial timber harvest as the most economically viable tool to manage the forest. These routes are also used by our fire operations to address wildfires. Improved road conditions would allow increased response capabilities.

The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest recognizes the significance Highways A and N provide to the region’s economy and the management of the National Forest. The CNNF places a very high priority on transportation infrastructure and believes it is critical to maintain roads in order to support our forest. Please consider supporting Bayfield County’s application.

Sincerely,

PAUL I. V. STRONG  
Forest Supervisor

cc: Mark Beuning; Mark Abeles-Allison (Bayfield County Administrator)
June 28, 2018

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

Re: Importance of all season roads to forest industry in Wisconsin

Dear Secretary Chao:

The forest products industry in Wisconsin is an integral part of the state’s economy. Consider the following:

- Forest products in Wisconsin account for 12% of the value of all shipments, as well as 14% of jobs and 13% of wages in the manufacturing sector.
- Wisconsin has over 1,200 forest products companies.
- Forest products manufacturing occurs throughout the entire state, impacting communities of all sizes and scale.

An integral and necessary part of keeping the forest products industry vibrant is transporting raw material resources to manufacturing facilities as well as the distribution of finished goods to the marketplace. As freight rail transport has declined, there has been an increased shift to the use of roads and trucking to accomplish these needs.

The importance of local roads to the forest products industry cannot be understated. Minimizing the transportation costs of raw materials is very crucial. The relatively low value and high weight of their raw materials accounts for nearly half of their delivered costs.

In an analysis of Northern Minnesota/ Northwestern Wisconsin Regional Freight conducted by Minnesota and Wisconsin DOT and the Duluth Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council, lumber and wood products were identified as the largest commodities exporting out of the region with 11 percent or 9.8 million tons of all outbound tonnage. Lumber, wood and paper products are key industries in the region. Raw pulpwood is generally brought by truck from surrounding forests using local roads. Access to a network of reliable routes is critical for the industry because of the bulky nature and low value of the products.

The forest industry requires good roads and year-round transportation corridors. Road closures disrupt the flow of wood to markets and impacts businesses that depend on selling and buying wood. We believe getting product to market year-round is important locally, regionally and statewide.

Improvements to Wisconsin’s county highways will support commerce, economic development opportunities and improve safety for county residents, visitors and travelers through improved construction standards and increased durability.

The Division of Forestry recognizes the significance county highways provide to the region’s economy. Road improvements will create immediate savings for local business and improve revenue streams for local government benefitting from year-round access on county highways.
The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, supports all grant applications submitted from entities whose road work would be done in Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

Fred Souba, Jr.
Chief State Forester
July 10, 2018

Mr. Mark Abeles-Allison, ICMA
Bayfield County Administrator
117 E. Fifth Street, PO Box 878
Washburn, WI  54891      via email: markaa@bayfieldcounty.org

Dear Mark:

Thank you for sharing information with me about the proposed grant to upgrade Bayfield County Highways A and N between Iron River and Barnes, Wisconsin. Upgrading this road to make it safer, and allow it to be used in all seasons, would be a very good thing for the visitor to the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, located in northeast Bayfield County.

Visits to the National Lakeshore have averaged over 211,000 the last five years (2013-2017). While the park consists mainly of islands in Lake Superior, road access is critical as virtually all park visitors come to the area by car before they get into a boat. Most come from Minnesota or southern Wisconsin, and an additional route through this area will provide more options for drivers to access the park. Peak visitation periods overload existing road infrastructure, alternates would help spread out traffic loads.

In addition, in the last two years, several severe storms have closed both state and US highways most commonly used to access the National Lakeshore for several months during peak tourism season. Additional all-season roads will provide visitors safe and alternate routes.

Cold, icy winters are actually a huge attraction for this area; the park’s ice caves have become renowned since 2014 and when the conditions are cold enough, we will see more visits on a winter day than the busiest day in the summer. In fact, there were several days in winter 2014 where we counted over 10,000 people in a day. We saw 134,000 visitors for the winter, and 290,000 for the calendar year. It would certainly be an asset to our area and the local economy if Highways A and N were all-season roads.

The economic impact of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore is significant; in the peak (2014) visitation year, visitors are estimated to have spent $44 million in communities within 60 miles of the park. That spending supported 702 jobs in the area and had a cumulative benefit to the local economy of $53.8 million. Another road which improves access year-round would certainly add to these numbers.

Sincerely,

Bob Krumenaker
Superintendent
June 29, 2018

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

Re: Building All Season Economic Development (BASED) in Bayfield County, WI

Dear Secretary Chao:

Wisconsin County Forests Association (WCFA) supports the application of Bayfield County, WI for a 2018 US DOT BUILD grant.

WCFA represents the forestry interests of 29 counties with lands enrolled under WI’s County Forest Law (State Statutes §28.10 and §28.11). Collectively our members manage 2.4 million acres of forests, the largest public land base in our state. Bayfield County is a rural community in NW WI and a pivotal member of WCFA.

Local governments in our member counties rely on income from their county forests to directly offset tax levies and provide recreational opportunities supporting local tourism. County forests are an integral player in both WI’s $24 billion forest products industry and WI’s important tourism industry.

Our association places a very high priority on transportation infrastructure. It is critical to maintain roads in order to support our forest and tourism industries. Reconstruction of Bayfield County Highway A from Iron River to Highway N and then west to Highway 27 will provide year-round transportation options for forestry and construction work in a crucial part of Bayfield County. Bayfield County is geographically the second largest county in Wisconsin covering 1500 square miles. State Highway 63, located on the eastern side of the county, is currently the only All-Season highway extending south of US 2 within the county. Presently, all county roads are closed to heavy traffic for approximately 75 days a year as frost comes out of the ground and road bans are in place.
Improvements to existing transportation corridors identified in Bayfield County’s US DOT BUILD grant application will support commerce and allow for increased economic development opportunities. The project will enhance transportation corridors throughout all seasons but most importantly will provide essential routes currently unavailable during the spring thaw period. In addition, the proposed project will increase safety for county residents, visitors and travelers due to improved construction standards and increased durability.

WCFA recognizes the significant role Bayfield County Highways A and N play in contributing to the region’s economy. This proposed road improvement project will create immediate savings for local businesses and improve revenue streams for local governments benefitting from year-round access to the identified transportation corridors.

Please fund Bayfield County’s BASED in Bayfield BUILD project.

Sincerely,

Norman K. Bickford, President
Wisconsin County Forests Association
Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary, US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590  

Re: Building All Season Economic Development (BASED) in Bayfield County, WI  

Dear Secretary Chao:  

Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association strongly supports the application of Bayfield County, Wisconsin for a US DOT BUILD grant in 2018. Bayfield County is a rural community in NW Wisconsin which relies almost entirely on tourism and the forest industry for its economic well-being. Bayfield County is exemplary in demonstrating how a local government is balancing recreation and industry and is to be commended for taking this bold step to ensure the balance continues well into the future. It is apparent Bayfield County officials place very high priority on the wellbeing and safety of the citizens they represent. The US DOT Build Grant will help continue this trend by supporting critical infrastructure enhancement, such as upgrading roads, which will in turn support the forest and tourism industries with year round opportunities for business. Bayfield County is the second largest county in Wisconsin covering 1500 square miles. Highway 63, located on the eastern side of the county, is currently the only All-Season highway going south of US 2 in the County. Presently all county roads are closed to commercial traffic for approximately 75 days a year as frost comes out of the ground and temporary weight restrictions are in place. Specifically, the Build Grant will provide money needed for the reconstruction of County Highway A from Iron River to Highway N and then west to Highway 27. Having All-season access to these routes, will provide a plethora of transportation options for forestry and construction work in a crucial part of Bayfield County. Improvements on these existing county highways will support commerce, economic development opportunities and improved safety for county residents, visitors and travelers through improved construction standards and increased durability. Great lakes Timber Professionals Association recognizes the significance Highways A and N provide to the region’s economy. This road improvement will create immediate savings for local business and improve revenue streams for local government benefitting from year-round access on these two county highways.  

Please fund Bayfield County’s BASED in Bayfield BUILD project. On behalf of the Board of Directors and members of Great lakes Timber Professionals Association thank you for considering our request.  

Sincerely,  

Max Ericson, Sr., GLTPA Board President  
Henry Schienebeck, GLTPA Executive Director  

---  

The Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association (GLTPA) is a non-profit organization which represents loggers, truckers, sawmills, paper manufacturers, private and commercial forest landowners, forestry professionals, school districts and outdoor recreation enthusiasts in Michigan and Wisconsin. GLTPA’s mission is to “Protect a Multiple-Use Forest for Future Generations”.  

---  

3243 Golf Course Road P.O. Box 1278, Rhinelander WI 54501  
Phone (715)-282-5828  
Fax (715)-282-4941  
www.gltpa.org
April 4, 2019

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

Re: Building All Season Economic Development (BASED) in Bayfield County, WI

Dear Secretary Chao:

The Northern Wisconsin Wood Industry Collaborative supports the application of Bayfield County, Wisconsin for a US DOT BUILD grant in 2019. The Wood Industry Collaborative is a unique partnership involving two state economic development regions looking to advocate and promote business growth through advancing existing and emerging markets in order to ensure the success of northern Wisconsin’s largest industry. Bayfield County is a rural community in NW Wisconsin. Our community places a very high priority on transportation infrastructure. It is critical to maintain roads in order to support our forest and tourism industries.

Reconstruction of County Highway A from Iron River to Highway N and then west to Highway 27 will provide year-round transportation options for forestry and construction work in a crucial part of Bayfield County. Bayfield County is the second largest county in Wisconsin covering 1500 square miles. Highway 63, located on the eastern side of the county is currently the only All-Season highway going south of US 2 in the County. Presently all county roads are closed to heavy traffic for approximately 75 days a year as frost comes out of the ground and road bans are in place.

Improvements on this existing county highway will support commerce, economic development opportunities and improve safety for county residents, visitors and travelers through improved construction standards and increased durability.

The Wood Industry Collaborative recognizes the significance Highways A and N provide to the region’s economy. This road improvement will create immediate savings for local business and improve revenue streams for local government benefitting from year-round access on these two county highways.

Please fund Bayfield County’s BASED in Bayfield BUILD project.

Sincerely,

Crystal Rohde
Administrator
June 28, 2019

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

Re: Building All Season Economic Development (BASED) in Bayfield County, WI

Dear Secretary Chao:

The Bayfield County Economic Development Corporation (BCEDC) supports the application of Bayfield County, Wisconsin for a US DOT BUILD grant in 2018. Bayfield County is a rural community in NW Wisconsin.

Our community places a very high priority on transportation infrastructure. It is critical to maintain roads in order to support our forest and tourism industries.

Reconstruction of County Highway A from Iron River to Highway N and then west to Highway 27 will provide year-round transportation options for forestry and construction work in a crucial part of Bayfield County. Bayfield County is the second largest county in Wisconsin covering 1500 square miles. Highway 63, located on the eastern side of the county is currently the only All-Season highway going south of US 2 in the County. Presently all county roads are closed to heavy traffic for approximately 75 days a year as frost comes out of the ground and road bans are in place.

Improvements on this existing county highway will support commerce, economic development opportunities and improve safety for county residents, visitors and travelers through improved construction standards and increased durability.

The BCEDC recognizes the significance Highways A and N provide to the region’s economy. This road improvement will create immediate savings for local business and improve revenue streams for local government benefitting from year-round access on these two county highways. **Although the BCEDC operates under limited annual budgets, our organization pledges $500.00 to partner on this BASED project, should it be awarded to Bayfield County.**

Please fund Bayfield County’s BASED in Bayfield BUILD project.

Sincerely,

Cole Rabska  
Executive Director  
Bayfield County Economic Development Corporation
April 4, 2019

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

Re: Building All Season Economic Development (BASED) in Bayfield County, WI

Dear Secretary Chao:

Visions Northwest Regional Economic Development supports the application of Bayfield County, Wisconsin for a US DOT BUILD grant in 2019. Bayfield County is a rural community in NW Wisconsin.

Our community places a very high priority on transportation infrastructure. It is critical to maintain roads in order to support our forest and tourism industries.

Reconstruction of County Highway A from Iron River to Highway N and then west to Highway 27 will provide year-round transportation options for forestry and construction work in a crucial part of Bayfield County. Bayfield County is the second largest county in Wisconsin covering 1500 square miles. Highway 63, located on the eastern side of the county is currently the only All-Season highway going south of US 2 in the County. Presently all county roads are closed to heavy traffic for approximately 75 days a year as frost comes out of the ground and road bans are in place.

Improvements on this existing county highway will support commerce, economic development opportunities and improve safety for county residents, visitors and travelers through improved construction standards and increased durability.

Visions Northwest recognizes the significance Highways A and N provide to the region's economy. This road improvement will create immediate savings for local business and improve revenue streams for local government benefitting from year-round access on these two county highways.

Please fund Bayfield County's BASED in Bayfield BUILD project.

Sincerely,

Crystal Rohde
Visions Northwest Administrator
July 3, 2018

Bayfield County

State of Wisconsin

Washburn, WI

Dear Mr. Abeles-Allison,

I am writing today in support of the proposed Bayfield County highway project on highways A and N in Barnes, Wisconsin.

The proposed project includes County Highways within the Barnes Township and the roads are heavily traveled by logging trucks and other semi traffic, allowing connection to State Hwy 27, U.S. Hwy 2 and State Hwy 63.

Thank you for your consideration, the closure of these major highways in the spring each year is detrimental to area businesses and major employers in northern Wisconsin. Reconstruction and improvements to these County Highways that will allow open roads throughout the year will greatly benefit our area. It should help our economic development and quality of life in Bayfield County.

Sincerely,

Christine Webb

Town of Barnes, Chairman
TOWN OF IRON RIVER
Bayfield County
P.O. Box 485
Iron River, WI 54847-0485

Office: 715-372-5457
Fax: 715-372-4609

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

July 12th, 2019

Re: Building All Season Economic Development (BASED) in Bayfield County, WI

Dear Secretary Chao:

The Town of Iron River supports the application of Bayfield County, Wisconsin for a US DOT BUILD grant in 2019. Bayfield County is a rural community in NW Wisconsin.

Our community places a very high priority on transportation infrastructure. It is critical to maintain roads in order to support our forest and tourism industries.

Reconstruction of County Highway A from Iron River to Highway N and then west to Highway 27 will provide year-round transportation options for forestry and construction work in a crucial part of Bayfield County. Bayfield County is the second largest county in Wisconsin covering 1500 square miles. Highway 63, located on the eastern side of the county is currently the only All-Season highway going south of US 2 in the County. Presently all county roads are closed to heavy traffic for approximately 75 days a year as frost comes out of the ground and road bans are in place.

Improvements on this existing county highway will support commerce, economic development opportunities and improve safety for county residents, visitors and travelers through improved construction standards and increased durability.

The Town of Iron River recognizes the significance Highways A and N provide to the region’s economy. This road improvement will create immediate savings for local business and improve revenue streams for local government benefitting from year-round access on these two county highways.

Please fund Bayfield County’s BASED in Bayfield BUILD project.

Sincerely,

Steve Probst
Chairperson
Town of Iron River
June 12, 2018

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

RE: Building All Season Economic Development (BASED) in Bayfield County, WI  

Dear Secretary Chao:  

The Town of Drummond supports the application of Bayfield County, Wisconsin for the US DOT BUILD grant in 2018. The Town of Drummond in a rural community in the southern part of Bayfield County in NW Wisconsin. Our community places a very high priority on transportation infrastructure. It is truly critical to maintain roads in order to support our forest products and tourism industries.  

Reconstruction of County Highway A from Iron River to County Highway N and then west to State Highway 27 will provide year-round transportation options for forestry and construction work in a crucial part of Bayfield County. Bayfield County is the second largest county in Wisconsin covering 1500 square miles. US highway 63, located on the eastern side of the county is currently the only all-season highway going south of US Highway 2 in the County. Presently, all county highways are closed to heavy traffic for approximately 75 days a year as frost comes out of the ground and road bans are in place.  

The portion of Bayfield County that would be serviced by this improved highway access, contains many square miles of State Forest, County Forest, and industrial forest lands. The well-drained sandy soils in this area make an ideal situation for commercial logging to take place during the traditional 75 day “break-up” season. Having year-round access permits hauling forest products from this area during a typically slow time for the forest industry. The improvement would benefit many logging contractors and help ensure a steady supply of raw forest products to the area’s timber mills.  

The Town of Drummond believes that improvements to this existing county highway will support commerce, economic development and improve safety for county residents, visitors and travelers through improved construction standards and increased durability.  

The Town of Drummond recognizes the significance Highways A and N provide to the region’s economy. This road improvement project will create immediate savings for local businesses and improve the revenue stream for local government benefitting from year-round access on these two county highways.  

Please fund Bayfield County’s BASED in Bayfield BUILD project.  

Sincerely,  

Royden Bloom, Chairman
June 29, 2018

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

Re: Building All Season Economic Development (BASED) in Bayfield County, WI

Dear Secretary Chao:

The Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa supports the application of Bayfield County, Wisconsin for a US DOT BUILD grant in 2018. Bayfield County is a rural community in NW Wisconsin.

The Red Cliff Band places a very high priority on transportation infrastructure to facilitate economic growth and competitiveness and for the wellbeing of the members of this community. It is critical to maintain roads in order to support forest and tourism industries, as well as all economic development and to improve the quality of life for area residents and visitors.

Reconstruction of County Highway A from Iron River to Highway N and then west to Highway 27 will provide year-round transportation options for forestry and construction work in a crucial part of Bayfield County. Bayfield County is the second largest county in Wisconsin covering 1500 square miles. Highway 63, located on the eastern side of the county is currently the only All-Season highway going south of US 2 in the County. Presently all county roads are closed to heavy traffic for approximately 75 days a year as frost dissipates from road subgrades and road bans are put in place.

Improvements on this existing county highway will support commerce, economic development opportunities and improve safety for county residents, visitors and travelers through improved construction standards and increased durability. Improved shoulder grading and right of way clearing will greatly improve safety and this project will address the poor condition due to existing logging, the number one economic generator in the county and other heavy truck traffic.
Red Cliff recognizes the significance Highways A and N provide to the region’s economy, and the access to health and education facilities it provides including two regional hospitals, several technical colleges and universities and many K thru 12 schools.

Highways A and N provide access to over 100 inland lakes with year-round residents as well as vacation homes and local businesses who depend on safe and well-constructed roads for their quality of life and livelihood. This road improvement will create immediate savings for local business and improve revenue streams for local government benefitting from year-round access on these two county highways.

Please fund Bayfield County’s BASED in Bayfield BUILD project.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Peterson, Chairman
June 15, 2018

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

Re: Building All Season Economic Development (BASED) in Bayfield County, WI

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am pleased to write this letter on behalf of NorthLakes Community Clinic supporting Bayfield County, Wisconsin for a US DOT BUILD grant in 2018. Bayfield County is a rural community in NW Wisconsin. Our community places a very high priority on transportation infrastructure. It is critical to maintain roads in order to support our forest and tourism industries.

Reconstruction of County Highway A from Iron River to Highway N and then west to Highway 27 will provide year-round transportation options for forestry and construction work in a crucial part of Bayfield County. Bayfield County is the second largest county in Wisconsin covering 1500 square miles. Highway 63, located on the eastern side of the county is currently the only All-Season highway going south of US 2 in the County. Presently all county roads are closed to heavy traffic for approximately 75 days a year as frost comes out of the ground and road bans are in place.

Improvements on this existing county highway will support commerce, economic development opportunities and improve safety for county residents, visitors and travelers through improved construction standards and increased durability.

NorthLakes Community Clinic recognizes the significance Highways A and N provide to the region’s economy. This road improvement will create immediate savings for local business and improve revenue streams for local government benefitting from year-round access on these two county highways.

Please fund Bayfield County’s BASED in Bayfield BUILD project.

Sincerely,

Reba Rice
Chief Executive Officer
June 29, 2018

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

Re: Building All Season Economic Development (BASED) in Bayfield County, WI

Dear Secretary Chao:

The Northwest Wisconsin Workforce Investment Board supports the application of Bayfield County, Wisconsin for a US DOT BUILD grant in 2018. Bayfield County is a rural community in NW Wisconsin.

Our community places a very high priority on transportation infrastructure. It is critical to maintain roads in order to support our forest and tourism industries.

Reconstruction of County Highway A from Iron River to Highway N and then west to Highway 27 will provide year-round transportation options for forestry and construction work in a crucial part of Bayfield County. Bayfield County is the second largest county in Wisconsin covering 1500 square miles. Highway 63, located on the eastern side of the county is currently the only All-Season highway going south of US 2 in the County. Presently all county roads are closed to heavy traffic for approximately 75 days a year as frost comes out of the ground and road bans are in place.

Improvements on this existing county highway will support commerce, economic development opportunities and improve safety for county residents, visitors and travelers through improved construction standards and increased durability.

The Northwest Wisconsin Workforce Investment Board recognizes the significance Highways A and N provide to the region's economy. This road improvement will create immediate savings for local business and improve revenue streams for local government benefitting from year-round access on these two county highways.

Please fund Bayfield County’s BASED in Bayfield BUILD project.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Maii Kay-Nabozy
Chief Executive Officer
Northwest Wisconsin Workforce Investment Board