October 18, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590-3660

Dear Secretary Chao,

I am writing in support of the City of Gulf Shores, Alabama’s 2018 BUILD grant application for the Waterway Village Multimodal Access Project. This project will construct necessary vehicular, bicycle, and pedestrian transportation infrastructure to create a walkable, mixed-use neighborhood and business district that will improve safety, reduce congestion, and enhance the quality of life for our citizens.

The project will expand bicycle and pedestrian access throughout the Waterway Village District and across the Intracoastal Canal. Vehicular, bicycle, and pedestrian access will connect State Highway 59 to the Jack Edwards Airport, Gulf Shores Business and Aviation Park, and County Road 4 to the Foley Beach Express. These improvements will promote economic development, private investment, and job creation throughout Gulf Shores.

I understand the project will create 3 miles of complete streets, including a 1 mile extension of Waterway East Boulevard. The construction of 1.5 miles of roadway will help provide access to the Future Terminal Area of the Jack Edwards Airport. Along State Highway 59 (Gulf Shores Parkway), a pedestrian bridge will accommodate foot traffic, and a 1 mile widening of Highway 59 will provide an additional southbound lane and turning lane onto 20th avenue to help alleviate congestion. These improvements will surely reduce congestion, increase safety, and encourage economic development in our region.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Delmore
Chief of Police