



June 25, 2019

Office of Infrastructure Finance and Innovation  
Office of the Secretary of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Support for the City of Cottage Grove Main Street Refinement Plan  
2018 BUILD Grant Application

To the Honorable Secretary Elaine Chao:

I am writing to you today as Mayor of the City of Cottage Grove, Oregon asking for you to give your diligent consideration to our City's request to be a 2019 BUILD Grant recipient. This grant, if awarded, is a unique opportunity to improve the transportation network within rural Lane County while elevating the historic downtown core of Cottage Grove, making it accessible to the entire community and ensuring economic vitality for decades to come.

As Mayor, I am very proud of our City and I believe the implementation of our Main Street Refinement Plan is our best opportunity to keep pace with the changing local, state and international economies. We have a lot to offer here but struggle to compete with urbanized areas. Make no mistake, we love our small rural city and its charms, but we also understand that to ensure our future, we must be competitive.

The City of Cottage Grove Main Street Revitalization Project will usher in a new era for our City. Our plan includes: dramatic improvements to pedestrian safety and mobility within our historic downtown; restored road surfaces and expanded access to infrastructure; cutting edge environmental practices; multi-use community space within a festival plaza; broadband connectivity; undergrounded utilities; shared multi-modal roadways; and full compliance with Americans with Disability Act standards.

I want to thank you, in advance, on behalf of the City of Cottage Grove, both present and future, for considering our 2019 BUILD Grant application. We consider it our honor to ask for your support in the approval of our application.

Sincerely,

Mayor Jeff Gowing  
City of Cottage Grove, OR