



July 19, 2018

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

**Subject: 2018 BUILD Grant Application for Maryland I-81 Phase 2**

Dear Secretary Chao:

On Behalf of Procter & Gamble (P&G), Tabler Station Plant, I am writing to express our strong support for the request from the Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA) for funding through the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant program for the I-81 Phase 2 Corridor Widening project, *Making Way for Economic Growth & Safety*. MDOT SHA is seeking a grant of \$25 million, leveraging public funds to address critical safety and freight improvements by expanding capacity and improving interchanges along this designated freight corridor in the Appalachian region.

The I-81 Corridor in Maryland is critical for P&G's success. Completion of one of the largest plants globally for P&G in the year 2020 will require sufficient and effective transportation routes. With our plant located right on I-81, off exit 8 (Tabler Station Road) in Martinsburg, WV, we will rely 100% on I-81's sufficiency. Although this plant is located in West Virginia, about 20% of our employee population has residence in Maryland so our community engagement is high. This manufacturing plant will supply core consumer products such as Head & Shoulders, Pantene, Old Spice Body wash, Swiffer, Dawn Dish soap, and Bounce fabric softening sheets to the entire US and parts of the entire North America markets so transformation reliability is critical. The I-81 Corridor Widening project will increase operational capacity and position the corridor to serve as a national asset for freight movement for the next several decades.

Receipt of this grant funding will allow MDOT SHA to proceed steadily with the I-81 Corridor Widening project, enhancing the capacity, efficiency, and safety of one of the country's busiest and most congested freight corridors while keeping pace with freight traffic growth. Phase 1 of the I-81 Corridor Widening project commenced construction in October 2016 and will be complete by June 2020. Should MDOT SHA be awarded a BUILD grant for this project, Phase 2 can be advertised, awarded and begun within a projected 11 months, with substantial completion anticipated 2.5 years after notice to proceed.

Thank you for your consideration of the I-81 Phase 2 Corridor Widening project, *Making Way for Economic Growth & Safety* and MDOT SHA's request for BUILD grant funding. If you have any questions regarding our support for this project, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Keith Busby  
P&G Tabler Station HR/PR Site Leader



**Public and Government Affairs**

8600 La Salle Road, Suite 639  
Oxford Building  
Towson, MD 21286  
(410) 616-1900, ext. 61152  
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July 16, 2018

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

**RE: 2018 BUILD Grant Application for Maryland I-81 Phase 2**

Dear Secretary Chao:

This letter expresses AAA Mid-Atlantic's strong support for the Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration's (MDOT SHA) Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant application for the I-81 Phase 2 Corridor Widening project, *Making Way for Economic Growth & Safety*.

MDOT SHA is seeking a grant of \$25 million, leveraging public funds to address critical safety and freight improvements by expanding capacity and improving interchanges along this designated freight corridor in the Appalachian Region.

The I-81 Corridor in Maryland no longer meets system performance requirements, resulting in a disruptive bottleneck negatively impacting the movement of freight in a corridor carrying 12 percent of the country's Gross Domestic Product per year. The I-81 Corridor Widening project will increase operational capacity and create major travel time savings for both passenger and commercial motor vehicles.

In addition to creating new capacity, the I-81 Corridor Widening project will improve safety by reconstructing several hazardous entry and exit ramps to create safer merging and exiting. I understand that the state of West Virginia completed a similar expansion project along the I-81 Corridor in 2011 that resulted in a significant reduction in crashes.

Receipt of this grant funding will allow MDOT SHA to enhance the capacity, efficiency, and safety of one of the country's busiest and most congested freight corridors. The I-81 Corridor Widening and safety improvements must proceed steadily to keep pace with freight traffic growth on this vitally important corridor.

On behalf of AAA Mid-Atlantic's nearly one million Maryland members whom will benefit from this project, I ask that you give favorable consideration to the MDOT SHA application for the I-81 Phase 2 Corridor Widening project, *Making Way for Economic Growth & Safety*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ragina Cooper Averella'.

Ragina Cooper Averella  
Maryland Manager, Public & Government Affairs

cc: Thomas Calcagni, Regional Director, Public & Government Affairs, AAA Mid-Atlantic Inc.  
Catherine L. Rossi, Vice President, Public & Government Affairs, AAA Club Alliance Inc.

ROBERT P. CASEY, JR.  
PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEES:  
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,  
AND FORESTRY  
FINANCE  
HEALTH, EDUCATION,  
LABOR, AND PENSIONS  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 27, 2018

The Honorable Elaine Chao  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I write in support of the application submitted by the Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration for funding from the BUILD Grant Program administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation. This funding will help support the I-81, Phase 2 Corridor Widening project. I urge you to give this proposal full and fair consideration.

The I-81 corridor in Pennsylvania and Maryland no longer meets system performance requirements, resulting in traffic congestion that negatively affects the movement of freight. The corridor carries more than 19,400 trucks per day, which falls within the top 1% of truck volume by lane mile in the entire nation. Additionally, this corridor carries approximately 12% of the Country's annual Gross Domestic product (GDP). This funding will help widen I-81 as well as improve safety by reconstructing several hazardous entry and exit ramps to create safer merging and exiting. This widening project will increase operation capacity and position the corridor to serve as a national asset for freight movement for the next several decades.

Thank you in advance for the consideration of my views. Please include this letter in the official record of the application. Consistent with all applicable laws, rules and regulations, I also respectfully request that you keep me informed of the status of this grant application. Finally, if you have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to contact me or my staff at (202) 224-6851.

Sincerely,



Robert P. Casey, Jr.  
United States Senator



August 9, 2018

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

**Subject: I-81 Phase 2 Corridor Widening: Making Way for Economic Growth & Safety**  
*Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) 2018 Grant Request*

Dear Secretary Chao,

As the H.R. representative, I am writing on behalf of Staples Distribution Center to demonstrate our support for the Maryland Department of Transportation's BUILD application for the expansion of Interstate 81 in Maryland. With 2 facilities located along the corridor, this planned capital investment in our region's transportation infrastructure will offer Staples and other industry leaders significant cost savings and efficiencies in our distribution activities.

The existing conditions of I-81 in Maryland are plagued by high freight volumes that exceed the capacity available on the four lanes of roadway. High crash rates and the resulting congestion and backlogs directly impact our facilities located in Hagerstown (Hopewell Road) and Chambersburg, PA. Our Hagerstown facility sends approximately 140,000 tons of freight annually, equating to 9,400 truck-loads per year. Each load averages \$185,000 worth of sales. You can see where the value of efficient movements through the I-81 corridor is very important - 100% of our departing loads, sent to over 450 stores, are affected by traffic trends on I-81.

The proposed expansion and reconstruction improvements to I-81 will have a direct and positive impact on Staples, and will reinforce our commitment to expanding our operations in Washington County. Thank you for your consideration of this critical project.

Sincerely,

*Alan S. Moore*

Alan S. Moore  
Sr. Regional Transportation Manager  
Staples Hagerstown Distribution Center  
11540 Hopewell Road  
Hagerstown, MD 21740