

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 28, 2016

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

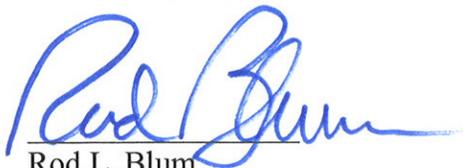
Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to strongly support the Fostering Advancements in Shipping and Transportation for Long-Term Achievement of National Efficiencies (FASTLANE) grant application submitted to you by the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) for the Cedar Rapids Logistical Park (CRLP). This grant application further develops transportation infrastructure in Iowa and surrounding states with access to a high capacity, efficient, and cost-competitive facility to move goods from truck to rail and vice-versa.

Located in east-central Iowa, the Cedar Rapids Logistical Park will consist of three components, including a full-service intermodal trans-load, cross dock, and logistics terminal. With the support of a FASTLANE grant, the project will lower transportation costs both regionally and nationally, making the transportation system a more valuable and efficient asset for economic development and freight mobility. The facility will accommodate the needs of companies, expand and enhance existing infrastructure and create an environment conducive for economic growth in the region.

The CRLP is supported by a robust highway system and rail network. The Cedar Rapids and Iowa City Railroad has connections for movement of freight in all direction by many Class I railroads (e.g., Canadian National, Burlington Northern and Santa Fe, Canadian Pacific, CSX, and Union Pacific) through the Class II Iowa Interstate Railroad. In addition, the site offers a unique opportunity to open up land for development, spur economic growth, attract new businesses requiring more efficient intermodal transportation, provide trans-load and cross dock access, which in turn creates well-paying and rewarding jobs in the region. Furthermore, this project lies in the heart of most major Midwest markets, making it a vital transportation corridor in our nation's Heartland.

With this grant application, I am confident the Cedar Rapids Logistical Park will greatly benefit Iowa, the Midwest, and our entire nation. I urge your office to give this the appropriate attention and fair examination it deserves. Thank you for your attention to this request.



Rod L. Blum  
Member of Congress

Sincerely,



Dave Loebsock  
Member of Congress