



DEAN C. RINGLE, P.E., P.S.
FRANKLIN COUNTY ENGINEER

December 14, 2016

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

Dear Secretary Foxx:

This letter is to document Franklin County Engineer's support of the FASTLANE grant application for Columbus Regional Airport Authority's (CRAA) "Rickenbacker Inland Port Interstate Connector" project. As one of the agencies with direct responsibility for Alum Creek Drive between Rickenbacker Airport and I-270, we have a long history attempting to make that stretch of roadway function properly with the ever expanding commercial growth the area. This has included a number of small intersection improvements along the corridor, including a \$13 million improvement at the Groveport Road intersection. While those improvements have lessened the congestion problems along the corridor, we have come to realize that the only proper, long-term improvement is through the addition of a third through lane in each direction. The preliminary engineering performed for such a widening indicated that the cost for this one project would require over 8 years of this office's entire capital improvement budget. So while the "need" is fully understood, the ability to finance a project of that scope is not feasible.

We are therefore very appreciative of CRAA's leadership in pulling together the parties with a vested interest in the corridor to support the subject FASTLANE application. As will be documented elsewhere, the Rickenbacker Inland Port is a key freight and logistics hub for Central Ohio, as well as the nation in general. We see this grant request as being a critical funding component to keep it functioning as such now and for well into the future.

We appreciate your consideration of this funding application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dean C. Ringle".

Dean C. Ringle, P.E., P.S.
Franklin County Engineer

DCR:tb

c: Cornell Robertson, Ted Beidler, Project File