



**Bob D. Hackett**  
State Senator  
10th District

**Ohio Senate**  
Senate Building  
1 Capitol Square  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
(614) 466-3780

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

**Re: Expression of Support for the Rickenbacker Inland Port FY 2017 FASTLANE Application**

Dear Secretary Foxx:

I am writing to personally express my strong support for the Rickenbacker Inland Port Interstate Connector FASTLANE application, which includes adding a third through lane in each direction to the existing stretch of Alum Creek Drive along a 2.3 mile stretch between State Route 317 to the south and Groveport Road to the north.

The Columbus Regional Airport Authority (CRAA) has partnered with Norfolk Southern Railway, the Franklin County Engineer's Office and the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) to assess critical improvements needed in the Rickenbacker Inland Port area. This application represents a package that addresses the area's transportation network in a comprehensive, multimodal manner.

This critical improvement focuses on increasing capacity along Alum Creek Drive, the north-south connection between Rickenbacker and I-270. A component of USDOT's National Primary Freight Highway System (PHFS) and a state-designated and federally-accepted National Highway System (NHS) Intermodal Connector Route, Alum Creek Drive is a critical freight corridor for the region. The widening improvement will alleviate two sources of congestion: the increased traffic generated by the growing number of successful businesses and the increased regional truck traffic generated by increasing volumes at the Rickenbacker Intermodal Facility.

The transportation infrastructure improvements detailed in this application are increasingly critical to business retention and attraction in Central Ohio, as well as regional and statewide freight movements. I respectfully request that the U.S. Department of Transportation consider the importance of these improvements to the prosperity of one of our region's most important job-creating areas.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bob Hackett".

Bob Hackett, State Senator  
10<sup>th</sup> Senate District