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Congress of the United States
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON WORKFORCE
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UNITED STATES HOUSE SCIENCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND
TECHNOLOGY
CHAIR

September 5, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary of Transportation
400 7th Street, SW
Washington DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

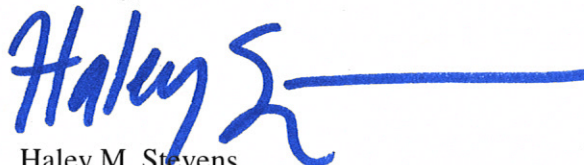
As a new member of Congress, I have spent the past eight months visiting every corner of my incredible district in southeastern Michigan. During these visits, one common theme has become abundantly clear – our roads are in desperate need of improvement. There exists an urgent demand for federal assistance to expand numerous roadways which would dramatically decrease the amount of time commuters sit behind the wheel of a car. After speaking with many municipal leaders, over the years numerous attempts to receive federal support from the U.S Department of Transportation have been repeatedly denied. As Michigan's economy advances with the rise of new automotive technologies and abilities, we have a unique opportunity to once again lead the country on highway solutions and innovations. As such, I humbly invite you to visit Michigan's 11th District to see the condition of our roads firsthand and to discuss collaborative solutions to our ongoing challenges.

Specifically, I invite you to visit the Beck Road Improvement Corridor in Wixom, Michigan. This project is one of the biggest road infrastructure needs in the region and serves as an example of the critical infrastructure projects in which local governments are investing. Local and regional entities have provided support towards this project, and the city of Wixom has applied for federal assistance to help fill in the gaps of the stretched-thin resources of our local municipalities.

Beck Road is a decades-old undersized 3-lane stretch of road. For years, the local community in Wixom has sought to expand this to 5 lanes to improve traffic flow and safety for drivers and pedestrians alike. There are approximately 7,000 jobs within one mile on either side of Beck Road, with hundreds of companies that rely on this road for freight and customer traffic. The average daily traffic count on this road has more than doubled over the past 20 years, resulting in a crash frequency that is ten times worse than the regional average. Improving this road to meet today's needs would greatly help address solutions to accommodate traffic growth, safety, and economic development.

It would be my pleasure to host you in Michigan's 11th District to see the project, as well as the wonderful community in Wixom, firsthand. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress