



October 19, 2017

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

Subject: INFRA Grant Application
Connecticut Department of Transportation
Charter Oak Bridge Project

Dear Secretary Chao:

The Connecticut Construction Industries Association respectfully submits this letter of support for the Connecticut Department of Transportation FASTLANE grant application for the Charter Oak Bridge project. Our membership firmly believes that this project would have a major impact on improving safety and mobility. The construction of the Charter Oak Bridge approach project will be a major improvement to the movement of freight and the economic conditions of the Region.

The Charter Oak Bridge is one of the priority investment strategies outlined in Connecticut's long-term transportation initiative. The state has budgeted \$190 Million towards the improvements. This region of the state holds two of the top 100 truck freight bottlenecks in the Nation. These improvements will transform a key segment of Connecticut's transportation system; dramatically reducing travel times, traffic incidents and injuries, and providing an economic boost to the economy.

The construction industry in Connecticut has been operating far under capacity for years. The transportation construction sector and material suppliers have a proven record of excellent performance. This project, and the residual economic development, would provide a much needed boost to our industry. As you very well know, the construction jobs, along the related material production, heavy equipment and supplies provide an immediate economic return on investment. The industry stands poised to marshal our resources to ensure the construction performance on this project is something everyone will be proud of.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gary Wall
President
Tilcon Connecticut, Inc.