Ohio House of Representatives

State Representative Michael O'Brien
Ohio House District 64

May 15, 2020

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

Dear Secretary Chao,

I am writing you today to express my full support for the Western Reserve Port Authority's application for funding in the FY20 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grants Program. This funding is for the Lordstown Smart Logistics Hub, a strategic infrastructure initiative to capitalize on Lordstown's location at the intersection of multiple modes of transportation, broadband, and electrification to position the area as the premier regional warehousing and distribution hub.

Investing in this project will invigorate Northeast Ohio, particularly the Mahoning Valley and Lordstown, areas that were sharply impacted by economic downturns. The Lordstown Smart Logistics Hub will build off the private investment by companies such as General Motors, Lordstown Motors Corporation, and TJX Homegoods.

I respectfully request your careful consideration of the Western Reserve Port Authority's grant application.

Respectfully,

Michael J. O'Brien