April 13, 2020

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

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Cisco Systems, Inc. (Cisco), I am writing to you today to express my 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. Funding will be used 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.

Cisco is proud to be a technology partner in the Lordstown region. Our work with the Ohio Turnpike in implementing connected roadway technology is helping the Turnpike deliver improvements in passenger and worker safety with wireless data collection and autonomous vehicle communications via Dedicated Short-Range Communication technology. Further development of Internet-of-Things capabilities will be essential to support the Lordstown Smart Logistics Hub's objectives. In addition, Cisco will continue to support Youngstown State University in providing wireless and collaborations tools for students and faculty as it helps power the economic resurgence of the area.

Since the beginning of the Lordstown Smart Logistics Hub initiative, we have seen stellar progress made by the project team and we eagerly await the funding decision related to the proposed project submitted by the Western Reserve Port Authority.

This letter demonstrates Cisco's support of the Youngstown SMART^2 Network project but in the event of an award, does not constitute a financial or resource commitment.

Sincerely,

Gary L. Hall

Director, U.S. Public Sector Strategy & Operations
Cisco Systems, Inc.