

FLORIDA TRUCKING ASSOCIATION



*Your Tomorrow
Is on a **Truck Today***

February 19, 2019

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

Dear Secretary Chao,

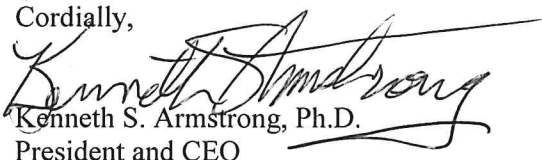
Please accept this letter of support for the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant application (Fiscal Year 2019) submitted by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for the Florida Keys Connecting Overseas to Advance Safe Travel (Keys COAST) project encompassing the 112.5 miles of U.S. 1 in Monroe County, Florida. This segment of U.S. 1 is a vital corridor for the movement of freight in Florida, serving as an economic lifeline for the Florida Keys, given that it is the only connection between the most southerly points of the continental United States and the mainland for all modes of surface transportation. In fact, 12% of the average daily traffic comprises heavy commercial vehicles within the project area.

Members of the Florida Trucking Association range from companies operating large fleets to individual owner-operators. Our members are directly impacted by costly delays due to daily congestion, incidents, drawbridge operations, and weigh station operations on the U.S. 1 project segment. Because of the relatively high incidence of crashes along this segment of U.S. 1, our member truckers cannot escape the considerable lost productivity whether they are involved in a crash or indirectly impacted by one because there are no alternate routes around the chain of islands. The crashes tend to be severe in nature. In fact, there were 51 fatal crashes in the last three years (2015-2017) with 7 of them attributed to freight. These incidents take longer to clear since emergency responders also do not have alternate route options. In addition, the Florida Keys remain one of the most vulnerable areas in the United States to hurricanes. Post-hurricane, our member truckers also play a role in the delivery of goods and services by road to and across the affected areas.

FTA endorses the goals and technology applications envisioned for the Keys COAST project on U.S. 1 to improve safety and efficiently manage traffic using emerging technologies. We support the potential to minimize delays and improve safety for our member truckers by including features such as freight signal priority at traffic signals, smart roadside and virtual weigh-in-motion stations, and real-time drawbridge management. Again, there are no alternative routes for trucks to connect to the southernmost collection of islands, so these improvements will directly benefit our member truckers as well as residents, visitors, and the region's economy. We are prepared to cooperate with FDOT in the development and implementation of the Keys COAST project on U.S. 1.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of the Keys COAST INFRA grant request from FDOT. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me at (850) 222-9900.

Cordially,


Kenneth S. Armstrong, Ph.D.
President and CEO



THE CITY OF KEY WEST

Post Office Box 1409 Key West, FL 33041-1409 (305) 809-3700

Date: February 22, 2019

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

Dear Secretary Chao,

Please accept this letter of support for the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant application (Fiscal Year 2019) submitted by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for the Florida Keys Connecting Overseas to Advance Safe Travel (Keys COAST) project encompassing the 112.5 miles of U.S. 1 in Monroe County, Florida. This segment of U.S. 1 is a vital corridor for the movement of residents, visitors, goods and services in Florida. U.S. 1 serves as an economic lifeline for the City of Key West, given that it is the only connection between our City (the southernmost city in the continental United States), the rest of Monroe County and the mainland for all modes of surface transportation.

One of the challenges for us is that the City's residents, work force, businesses, goods movement, emergency services and visitors must rely on only one main road to access the City to/from the north, and that one road is U. S. 1. The public is directly impacted by costly travel delays due to daily congestion, traffic incidents, and drawbridge operations on the U.S. 1 project segment.

We are also host to year-round world-famous events like Fantasy Fest which bring more traffic, pedestrians and bicyclists to U.S. 1. The traffic in our community cannot escape the considerable delays when there are traffic incidents or added traffic from special events because there are no alternate routes around the chain of islands. In fact, the incidents take longer to clear since the emergency responders also do not have alternate route options. In addition, the Florida Keys and Key West remain one of the most vulnerable areas in the United States to hurricanes. Therefore, the pre- and post-hurricane activities are heavily dependent on reliable travel on U.S. 1 for access to and across the affected areas.

The City of Key West endorses the goals and technology applications envisioned for the Keys COAST project on U.S. 1 to improve safety and efficiently manage traffic. We support the potential to minimize delays and improve safety for motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists, emergency responders, transit and trucks by including features such as freight signal priority, transit signal priority, emergency vehicle preemption, pedestrian-bicyclist safety warning solutions, smart roadside and virtual weigh-in-motion stations, and real-time drawbridge management. Again, there are no alternative routes for vehicular traffic to connect to the southernmost collection of islands, so these improvements will directly benefit

Serving the Southernmost City, ISO Rating "Class 1"

LS3MUTR4D3C3R16LS3MUTR3X



THE CITY OF KEY WEST

Post Office Box 1409 Key West, FL 33041-1409 (305) 809-3700

our residents, visitors, and the region's economy. We are prepared to cooperate with FDOT in the development and implementation of the Keys COAST project on U.S. 1.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of the Keys COAST INFRA grant request from FDOT. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me at 305-809-3937.

Sincerely,

Michael Davila, Fire Chief

Key West Fire Department
1600 N. Roosevelt Blvd.
Key West, Florida 33040
305-809-3938 Office
305-293-8399 Fax

Serving the Southernmost City

Serving the Southernmost City, ISO Rating "Class 1"

KEY WEST FIRE DEPARTMENT

County of Monroe

The Florida Keys



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Mayor Sylvia J. Murphy, District 5
Mayor Pro Tem Danny L. Kolhage, District 1
Michelle Coldiron, District 2
Heather Carruthers, District 3
David Rice, District 4

Mayor Sylvia J. Murphy
Nelson Government Center
102050 Overseas Hwy
Phone: 305-453-8787
Cell: 305-797-0088
e-mail: boccdis5@monroecounty-fl.gov

February 28, 2019

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

Dear Secretary Chao,

Please accept this letter of support for the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant application (Fiscal Year 2019) submitted by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for the Florida Keys Connecting Overseas to Advance Safe Travel (Keys COAST) project encompassing the 112.5 miles of U.S. 1 in Monroe County, Florida. This segment of U.S. 1 is a vital corridor for the movement of residents, visitors, goods and services in Florida. U.S. 1 serves as an economic lifeline for the Florida Keys, given that it is the only connection between the most southerly points of the continental United States and the mainland for all modes of surface transportation.

Monroe County and its incorporated areas have a resident population of about 77,000. Our region attracts more than 5 million visitors annually. One of the challenges for us is the County's unique linear geography comprising 1,783 islands, which means our residents and visitors are spread out in a linear fashion for 120 miles. We must rely on only one main road to get around, and that one road is U. S. 1 which takes close to three hours to traverse with good traffic. Our residents, visitors and businesses are directly impacted by costly travel delays due to daily congestion, traffic incidents, and drawbridge operations on the U.S. 1 project segment.

We are also host to year-round world-famous events like Fantasy Fest which bring more traffic, pedestrians and bicyclists to U.S. 1. The traffic in our community cannot escape the considerable delays when there are traffic incidents or added traffic from special events because there are no alternate routes around the chain of islands. In fact, the incidents take longer to clear since the emergency responders also do not have alternate route options. In addition, the Florida Keys remain one of the most vulnerable areas in the United States to hurricanes. Therefore, the pre- and post-hurricane activities are heavily dependent on reliable travel on U.S. 1 for access to and across the affected areas.

Monroe County endorses the goals and technology applications envisioned for the Keys COAST project on U.S. 1 to improve safety and efficiently manage traffic using emerging technologies. We support the potential to minimize delays and improve safety for motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists, transit and trucks by including features such as freight signal priority, transit signal priority, emergency vehicle preemption, pedestrian-bicyclist safety

warning solutions, smart roadside and virtual weigh-in-motion stations, and real-time drawbridge management. Again, there are no alternative routes for motorists and trucks to connect to the southernmost collection of islands, so these improvements will directly benefit our residents, visitors, and the region's economy. We are prepared to cooperate with FDOT in the development and implementation of the Keys COAST project on U.S. 1.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of the Keys COAST INFRA grant request from FDOT. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me at 305-453-8787.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sylvia J. Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "S" and a distinct "J" before the last name.

Mayor Sylvia J. Murphy,



Islamorada, Village of Islands

February 27, 2019

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

Dear Secretary Chao,

Please accept this letter of support for the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant application (Fiscal Year 2019) submitted by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for the Florida Keys Connecting Overseas to Advance Safe Travel (Keys COAST) project encompassing the 112.5 miles of U.S. 1 in Monroe County, Florida. This segment of U.S. 1 is a vital corridor for the movement of residents, visitors, goods and services in Florida.

Islamorada, Village of Islands is a tourist-oriented community in the Florida Keys along U.S. 1 from Mile Marker (MM) 72.8 to MM 90.8. One of the challenges for us is that the Village's residents, work force, businesses, goods movement, emergency services and visitors must rely on only one main road to access the Village to/from the north and the south, and that one road is U.S. 1. The public is directly impacted by costly travel delays due to daily congestion, traffic incidents, and drawbridge operations on the U.S. 1 project segment.

The traffic in our community cannot escape the considerable delays when there are traffic incidents or added traffic from special events because there are no alternate routes around the chain of islands. In fact, the incidents take longer to clear since the emergency responders also do not have alternate route options. In addition, the Florida Keys and Islamorada remain one of the most vulnerable areas in the United States to hurricanes. Therefore, the pre- and post-hurricane activities are heavily dependent on reliable travel on U.S. 1 for access to and across the affected areas.

Islamorada, Village of Islands endorses the goals and technology applications envisioned for the Keys COAST project on U.S. 1 to improve safety and efficiently manage traffic. We support the potential to minimize delays and improve safety for motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists, emergency responders, transit and trucks by including features such as freight signal priority, transit signal priority, emergency vehicle preemption, pedestrian-bicyclist safety warning solutions, smart roadside and virtual weigh-in-motion stations, and real-

time drawbridge management. Again, there are no alternative routes for vehicular traffic to connect to the southernmost collection of islands, so these improvements will directly benefit our residents, visitors, and the region's economy. We are prepared to cooperate with FDOT in the development and implementation of the Keys COAST project on U.S. 1.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of the Keys COAST INFRA grant request from FDOT. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me at 305-664-6460

Sincerely,



Seth Lawless

Village Manager

Islamorada, Village of Islands



CITY OF
MARATHON, FLORIDA

9805 Overseas Highway, Marathon, FL 33050
Phone (305) 743-0033 | www.ci.marathon.fl.us

February 26, 2019

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

Dear Secretary Chao:

Please accept this letter of support for the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant application (Fiscal Year 2019) submitted by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for the Florida Keys Connecting Overseas to Advance Safe Travel (Keys COAST) project encompassing the 112.5 miles of U.S. 1 in Monroe County, Florida. This segment of U.S. 1 is a vital corridor for the movement of residents, visitors, goods and services in Florida.

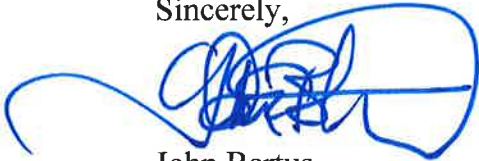
The City of Marathon, the Heart of the Florida Keys, is a family-oriented, tourist-friendly community in the middle of the Florida Keys island chain. The portion of U.S. 1 from approximately Mile Marker (MM) 47 (east end of the Seven Mile Bridge) to MM 60 (west end of Toms Harbors Bridge) runs through our city boundaries. One of the challenges for us is that the City's residents, work force, businesses, goods movement, emergency services and visitors must rely on only one main road to access the City to/from the north and the south, and that one road is U. S. 1. The motorists, including freight vehicles, are directly impacted by costly travel delays due to daily congestion, traffic incidents, and drawbridge operations on the U.S. 1 project segment.

The traffic in our community cannot escape the considerable delays when there are traffic incidents or added traffic from special events because there are no alternate routes around the chain of islands. In fact, the incidents take longer to clear since the emergency responders also do not have alternate route options. In addition, the Florida Keys and Marathon remain one of the most vulnerable areas in the United States to hurricanes. Therefore, the pre and post-hurricane activities are heavily dependent on reliable travel on U.S. 1 for access to and across the affected areas.

The City of Marathon endorses the goals and technology applications envisioned for the Keys COAST project on U.S. 1 to improve safety and efficiently manage traffic. We support the potential to minimize delays and improve safety for motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists, emergency responders, transit and trucks by including features such as freight signal priority, transit signal priority, emergency vehicle preemption, pedestrian-bicyclist safety warning solutions, smart roadside and virtual weigh-in-motion stations, and real-time drawbridge management. Again, there are no alternative routes for vehicular traffic to connect to the southernmost collection of islands, so these improvements will directly benefit our residents, visitors, and the region's economy. We are prepared to cooperate with FDOT in the development and implementation of the Keys COAST project on U.S. 1.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of the Keys COAST INFRA grant request from FDOT. If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



John Bartus
Mayor





MONROE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

RICHARD A. RAMSAY, SHERIFF

February 25, 2019

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

Dear Secretary Chao,

Please accept this letter of support for the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant application (Fiscal Year 2019) submitted by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for the Florida Keys Connecting Overseas to Advance Safe Travel (Keys COAST) project encompassing the 112.5 miles of U.S. 1 in Monroe County, Florida. This segment of U.S. 1 is a vital corridor for the movement of residents, visitors, goods and services in Florida.

One of the challenges for law enforcement is the County's unique linear geography comprising 1,783 islands, which means our law enforcement resources serve residents, businesses and visitors spread out in a linear fashion for approximately 120 miles, connected by U.S. 1, the main and only highway. As such, the law enforcement officers and emergency responders are affected in their activities by daily congestion, traffic incidents, and drawbridge operations on the U.S. 1 project segment.

Our region is also host to year-round world-famous events like Fantasy Fest which bring more traffic, pedestrians and bicyclists to U.S. 1. The traffic in our community cannot escape the considerable delays when there are traffic incidents or added traffic from special events because there are no alternate routes around the chain of islands. In fact, the incidents can sometimes take longer to clear since the law enforcement officers and emergency responders also do not have alternate route options. In addition, the Florida Keys remain one of the most vulnerable areas in the United States to hurricanes. Therefore, the management of pre- and post-hurricane evacuation and response activities are heavily dependent on reliable travel on U.S. 1 for access to and across the affected areas.

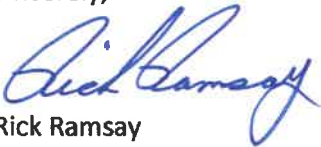
Monroe County Sheriff's Office endorses the goals and technology applications envisioned for the Keys COAST project on U.S. 1 to improve safety and to efficiently manage traffic. These project goals are aligned with the Sheriff's Office mission by helping us to keep our communities and roadways safe while providing the highest quality of service to our residents and visitors. We support the potential to minimize delays and improve safety for motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists, transit and trucks by including features such as freight signal priority, transit signal priority, emergency vehicle preemption, pedestrian-



bicyclist safety warning solutions, smart roadside and virtual weigh-in-motion stations, and real-time drawbridge management. Again, there are no alternative routes for motorists and trucks to connect to the southernmost collection of islands, so these improvements will directly benefit our residents, visitors, and the region's economy in conjunction with enhancing the law enforcement and emergency responder safety and response. We are prepared to cooperate with FDOT in the development and implementation of the Keys COAST project on U.S. 1.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of the Keys COAST INFRA grant request from FDOT. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact my operations commander, Major Chad Scibilia, at 305-292-7086.

Sincerely,



Rick Ramsay
Sheriff

Monroe County Sheriff's Office