April 26, 2021

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
Chair
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Sam Graves
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
2164 Rayburn House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves:

I am requesting funding for Hart County, "KY 335 improvements from US 31W south of KY 218 to I-65" in the surface transportation reauthorization legislation.

The project sponsor is the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, and the project is located at a 1.35-mile section of KY 335 in Horse Cave, Kentucky 42749.

The funding is designated for KY 335 for a new connector to improve mobility, connectivity, and safety from US 31 W to I-65.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to help with the rapid growth in Horse Cave, Kentucky. Horse Cave was once a small town that was built up around a railroad crossing and the crossroads of two rural roads, Highway 335 and Highway 31E. Now it is the home of rapidly growing manufacturers capitalizing on its proximity to Interstate 65. The growth has caused problems with safety and congestion. The current connector from US- 31 West to Interstate 65 in Horse Cave poses a safety hazard, which has been exacerbated by the growth of the industrial park and resulting increase in traffic. Semi-trucks in particular coming from I-65 to US-31 have difficulty using the connector due to limited space. This project will benefit the residents of Hart County, the workforce who commute from surrounding counties, and tourists who come to the area to visit Mammoth Cave National Park. The proposed federal funding of this project would accelerate the completion timeline.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

BRETT GUTHRIE
Member of Congress