Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 12, 2016

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

We write to express our strong support for the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development's (DOTD) FASTLANE grant application.

The requested FASTLANE funding will provide for the replacement of existing pavement and the addition of a lane along a critical segment of I-10 between I-49 in Lafayette and the Atchafalaya Floodway Bridge. Replacing poor pavement, adding capacity, and installing cable and concrete median barriers on this regionally and nationally significant freight route, will result in significant improvements for the safe and efficient delivery of cargo along the corridor.

In addition to the aforementioned improvements to this regionally and nationally significant freight route, DOTD has committed to allocating existing funds to expand multi-modal opportunities in Louisiana. Specifically, DOTD will allocate funding to reduce congestion on I-10 in Baton Rouge by relocating the Washington Street exit, improve the Loyola I-10 Interchange to facilitate growth at the New Orleans Airport, and for necessary grade crossing safety improvements on the freight rail line between Baton Rouge and New Orleans.

The FASTLANE grant, if awarded, combined with DOTD's existing commitments will provide meaningful benefits to our constituents as well as the local and national economy by reducing congestion, greatly enhancing the I-10 freight corridor, and expanding multimodal transportation in Louisiana.

As the Members of Congress from Louisiana, we collectively and respectfully request your favorable consideration of DOTD's FASTLANE grant application. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions regarding this request.

Sincerely,

David Vitter
United States Senator

Bill Cassidy, M.D.
United States Senator

Charles W. Boustany, Jr., M.D.
Member of Congress

Steve Scalise
Member of Congress

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