

June 19, 2018

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary of Transportation
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Support for the City of Clinton's **Drive to Prosperity: Manufacturing Drive/Bluff Boulevard Reconstruction** BUILD Grant Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I would like to extend my support to the City of Clinton's application for the BUILD Discretionary Grant (BUILD Grant). The City's proposed project, known as the **Drive to Prosperity: Manufacturing Drive/Bluff Boulevard Reconstruction**, is vital to the transportation connectivity and economy of not only the city but of the entire East Central Iowa region.

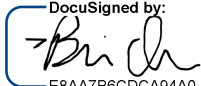
Completing the Manufacturing Drive and Bluff Boulevard reconstruction project – a total reconstruction and enhancement of the alignment from US Route 30 to 7th Avenue North – will ensure the safe, efficient movement of people and goods for decades to come. It will also serve as the primary transportation for multi-modal movement from the Confucius International Education Park to the Clinton High school.

In the initial year there will be up to 70 International students in the first year, however that number is set to grow to well over 300 in the coming years. In addition, we are working on actually hosting numerous STEM course at the campus which will see over 200 Clinton High School students taking Bluff Blvd back and forth between the two campuses.

Safety is vital to success of any educational endeavor and the more we can keep both local and International students safe the better. We are truly excited about this project to make movement between the two campuses safer but also assisting in storm water drainage that we have battled with the last several years as it comes down Springdale to Bluff Blvd.

I am pleased to support the City of Clinton's BUILD Grant application for the **Drive to Prosperity: Manufacturing Drive/Bluff Boulevard Reconstruction**. This project is important to the economic vitality of the region; it will improve the quality of life and allow the City to improve the condition of key infrastructure.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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Brian Clem
Clinton Catalyst