

Dear Municipal Leader

I'm contacting you today because the Lehigh Valley is competing for a \$24 million federal grant to build a \$44 million commuter road and trail stretching from the Hamilton Street Bridge in Allentown to Whitehall Township, North of Route 22, and I knew you could help better our chances of getting it. By connecting neighborhoods, reducing congestion and giving walkers, bikers and transit users better connections between some of the area's busiest residential and job centers, this project will not only benefit Allentown and Whitehall, but the entire Lehigh Valley.

However, if we're to compete with the likes of New York, Philadelphia and Seattle for this grant, we need to send US Department of Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao at least **1,000 letters of support**. That's where you can help – and we've made it as easy as possible. Just go to buildriversidedrive.com and click the **show your support** link at the top of the page. It will prompt a form that enables you to easily send a pre-written letter directly to Secretary Chao. The rest of the webpage also allows you to learn more about a project that:

- Closes the largest gap in the 165-mile D&L Trail,
- Supports a freight industry that employs more than 30,000 Valley residents,
- Opens a new emergency management route between the Airport and Route 22,
- Offers a new local road connection from Route 22 to Downtown Allentown,
- Connects to the planned LANTA Enhanced Bus/Bus Rapid Transit line and augments existing transit routes,
- Connects diverse neighborhoods to job centers and shopping districts.

This region deserves this funding and this project.

Thanks for your help and spread the word.

Sincerely,

Bethany Vazquez
Program Associate
Lehigh Valley Planning Commission