United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4705

COMMITTEES:

COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES FINANCE INDIAN AFFAIRS SMALL BUSINESS

March 21, 2022

Ms. Laura Ives
Economic Development Representative
U.S. Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
915 Second Avenue
Jackson Federal Building, Room 1890
Seattle, WA 98174

Dear Ms. Ives,

I am writing in support of the Shoalwater Bay Tribe's application for funding through the Economic Development Administration's (EDA) American Rescue Plan Act, Indigenous Communities FY21 Application.

The Tribe is requesting \$5.3 million of EDA funds for the Upland Access Road project. Funds will be used to build an ingress road with utility infrastructure that will provide a starting point to move the Tribe's essential infrastructure and services out of harm's way. The current location of the Tribe's community is vulnerable to the effects of sea rise, storm surges and potential tsunamis. The Tribe has made substantial investments in land on higher ground to prepare for community expansion and has invested significant funds developing a master plan for the project.

The Upland Access Road project will allow for the construction of additional government infrastructure and housing, securing existing jobs, adding additional jobs and providing additional housing for tribal members who had to move off of the reservation due to a lack of housing availability. This project will also allow for the continued planning and development of an economic district within the purchased 4,011 acres. This will provide for the continued growth of the Tribe's economy and help ensure safer conditions for the tribe.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration of the Shoalwater Bay Tribe's application.

Sincerely,

Maria Cantwell

United States Senator

Fax: (206) 220-6404