

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4705

February 26, 2026

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

Dear Secretary Duffy,

I am writing in support of the City of Spokane's application to the Department of Transportation's Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grants program. Spokane Valley is seeking \$24,959,696 for its Bigelow-Sullivan Corridor Freight Mobility and Safety: Sullivan and Trent Interchange Project.

Located between the high plains of eastern Washington and the western edge of the Rocky Mountains, the City of Spokane Valley is home to over 110,000 residents. The local workforce comprises a significant proportion of the regional freight industry, supporting railroads, interstates, and distribution centers for major businesses like Amazon and Kaiser Aluminum. Heavy congestion on I-90 forces freight truck drivers to navigate through the inner city via the Sullivan and Trent Interchange. Sullivan Road and Trent Avenue sustain over 9,000 jobs to and from the city, 85% of which are related to the freight industry. The 65-year-old interchange between these roads is continually worn down by the 30,000 daily commuters and the 10 million tons of freight passing per year. From 2021 through 2023, this interchange was responsible for 148,000 hours of shipping delays. Additionally, it was the cause of 45 recorded collisions and is consistently responsible for freight truck damages due to overhanging obstacles. The degradation of this interchange is a transit bottleneck that inhibits economic productivity across the region.

If successful, the City of Spokane Valley will use funding for infrastructure development essential to the interchange's long-term safety and durability. Specifically, expanding pedestrian and bike safety paths, expanding the road to five lanes, and replacing the static signalized intersection with a double roundabout. The Central City Bridge would also extend to accommodate two additional train tracks beneath the bridge, further supporting freighting activity and facilities. By expediting delivery times and raising the interchange's capacity, the City of Spokane projects savings of \$4 million through this project. Thus, federal investment would stimulate inter-regional transportation and economic activity both within and beyond the city, maximizing the region's freight industry.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration of the City of Spokane Valley's application to the BUILD grant program.

Sincerely,



Maria Cantwell

United States Senator