

United States Senate

February 5, 2025

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

Dear Secretary Duffy,

I am writing to express my strong support of Allegan County Road Commission's application for funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant program relocate a stretch of roadway along Lake Michigan in Saugatuck Township.

Saugatuck Township is a small township located in Allegan County, and home to approximately 3,500 full time residents. The western edge of the township borders Lake Michigan and attracts a large number of tourists and second homeowners to their community every year. Unfortunately, due to increasingly harsh weather, a number of roads along the shores of Lake Michigan have or are becoming inaccessible due to beach erosion.

The Allegan County Road Commission is requesting \$7,200,000 to relocate a stretch of roadway along Lake Michigan from its current location to a safer distance away from the lake. In 1988, the existing road (Lakeshore Drive) experienced a major washout that eliminated north-south access. Continued erosion has only exacerbated the problem. A new road will remedy this issue and make Saugatuck Township a safer and more accessible place for residents, visitors, and emergency responders alike.

I am confident that Allegan County Road Commission's application for BUILD grant funding will receive appropriate consideration. If you have questions or if I may be of any additional assistance, please contact me or my Federal Grants Director Elise Lancaster at (313) 505-5615. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Gary C. Peters
United States Senator