

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 15, 2020

Secretary Elaine Chao  
US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

We are writing to express our support for the Billings County Little Missouri River Crossing Safety and Mobility Project. Thank you for your consideration.

The Little Missouri River flows northward through the western portion of Billings County. It separates the eastern and western sides of the county with only limited ability to cross the river, with the I-94 bridges near Medora and the Long X Bridge on the other side of the county. There is approximately 70 miles between these two available crossings, necessitating agricultural producers, ranchers, tourists, and notably, emergency services personnel to travel significant distances to access existing east-west crossings.

The proposed project would construct a new bridge over the river between the existing crossings. It would provide a safe, reliable connection between the east and west sides of the river, improving opportunities for commerce, providing greater convenience for residents and reducing costs for a wide range of public and private operations in Billings and the surrounding counties. Most critically, it would result in more effective emergency services and better response times in this very rural region.

Accordingly, we hope this application receives your favorable consideration. Thank you, again, for your time and attention to this important matter. Please keep us informed of the review process, and feel free to contact us with any updates or inquiries you may have.

Sincerely,



John Hoeven  
U.S. Senator



Kevin Cramer  
U.S. Senator



Kelly Armstrong  
U.S. Representative