



THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

March 21, 2019

The Honorable Mikie Sherrill
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Sherrill:

Thank you for your letter supporting the award of grant funds appropriated by Congress for rail projects along the Northeast Corridor and elsewhere.

The U.S. Department of Transportation is committed to investing in the development, restoration, enhancement, and safe operation of our country's transportation networks. The Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) grant programs are ones that Congress has established and funded for these purposes.

The Federal-State Partnership for State of Good Repair Program (Partnership Program) is one of the Department's competitive grant programs, and it provides a Federal funding opportunity to leverage private, state, and local investments to significantly improve American rail infrastructure. The Partnership Program will be used to fund projects that benefit intercity passenger rail and that satisfy the eligibility and selection criteria described in the program's Notice of Funding Opportunity.

Please be assured that FRA will work diligently to ensure that all properly submitted applications received by the March 18, 2019, deadline are thoroughly evaluated and that projects selected receive funding in a timely manner.

Thank you again for writing. A similar response has been sent to each cosigner of your letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Elaine L. Chao', is positioned above the printed name.

Elaine L. Chao