

**DON YOUNG**  
CONGRESSMAN FOR ALL ALASKA  
WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
2314 RAYBURN BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
202-225-5765



COMMITTEE ON  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
INDIAN, INSULAR, AND  
ALASKA NATIVE AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE ON  
TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

July 12, 2018

The Honorable Elaine Chao  
Secretary  
United States Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I write in support of the City of Emmonak's application to the 2018 BUILD Discretionary Grant Program. The proposed project aligns directly with the Trump Administration's call for durable, job ready investments in rural transportation infrastructure that promote jobs and economic growth.

The project would provide long needed port and barge landing infrastructure at the mouth of the mighty Yukon River. I personally spent countless hours operating a barge operation on the Yukon River. Construction of a port facility in Emmonak is long overdue and a worthy project for the BUILD grant program.

This region of the state suffers greatly from limited economic development, a jobs shortage and extremely high costs of living; much of this is driver by transportation costs. There are simply no interconnecting roads in the entire area leaving ocean/river marine transportation as the only option other than air. There are no alternate facilities within hundreds of miles; this area deserves our attention.

This is a project of regional significance and with benefits extending well beyond the residents of the community of Emmonak. The Kusilvak Census Area has more than 8,200 residents but annual per capita income is less than \$12,000. The project is designed, permitted, and job ready.

The LYRR Port and Roads Renovation Project is job ready, with completed designs and permits and has Alaska State and private sector matching funds. This project will enhance a key transportation hub, generate long-term economic growth, and foster transportation efficiency.

I believe the city of Emmonak's and all other Alaskan applicants' grant proposals merit your close consideration. I appreciate your time to review of all of my constituents' applications and ask that you keep my office up to date on the outcome of the proposal.

Sincerely,

  
DON YOUNG  
Congressman for All Alaska