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512 NE 3rd Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301 • 954-462-6000 • Fax: 954-527-8766 • www.ftlchamber.com

May 12, 2020

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
U.S. Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Fort Lauderdale Downtown Development Authority's 2020 BUILD Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am pleased to submit this letter supporting the Fort Lauderdale DDA's 2020 BUILD application to design and construct complete street improvements in Downtown Fort Lauderdale.

Strategically located in the middle of a 6 million Tri-County region, Downtown Fort Lauderdale is the urban core of the County with regionally significant cultural venues, colleges and universities, headquarters to Fortune 500 companies and some of the largest employers in the region, and is in close proximity to essential transportation and freight infrastructure including an international airport, interstate roadways, a major cargo port and cruise terminal, and high-speed rail connecting Fort Lauderdale to neighboring cities in the north and south. It is imperative that we continue to invest in finding innovative solutions to move people, goods, and services in and around the region and the DDA's proposal to rebuild two important streets in our urban core will provide alternative mobility options for the community while stimulating economic development.

Now more than ever in these unprecedented times, the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber is committed to serving the business community and helping promote future economic growth and development in South Florida. We are happy to support this important initiative and thank you for your consideration of this grant application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Lindblade".

Dan Lindblade, CAE
President & CEO