

May 7, 2020

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 happy to write this letter of support for the Fort Lauderdale DDA's BUILD grant application to help fund the design and construction of complete street improvements in Downtown Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Urban Health Partnerships, Inc. (UHP) is a non-profit with a mission to invest in communities by co-designing sustainable change and promoting equity and well-being across the life span. UHP strives to promote, create, and partner with organizations that share the vision of having healthy and sustainable communities where people can actively, safely and conveniently access their daily needs through quality air, transportation, food options, and social opportunities.

As the coordinating agency of the recent 2020 Safe Streets Summit held earlier this year in Fort Lauderdale, our team partnered with the DDA and participated in several tours of Downtown on foot, bike, scooter, and transit. While there are many areas of the public realm that have experienced reinvestment through upgrading of sidewalks, lighting, tree canopy, signage, ADA accommodations, and art, there are pockets in dire need of improvement to make it safe and comfortable for all ages and abilities. The DDA's plan to redesign and rebuild NE 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Streets does just that and we are incredibly supportive of their efforts.

I urge you to strongly consider approving this application request. It will create a better environment for a healthier community and improve access for those in our community that are so desperately needing it right now.

Sincerely,



Dr. Andrea Iglesias  
Urban Health Partnerships, Inc.  
CEO/Executive Director