

2700 Vine Hays, KS 67601 785-628-8201

June 5, 2019

Dean Haselhorst, Chairman Ellis County Board of Commissioners 718 Main Street Hays, KS 67601

Dear Mr. Chairman

On behalf of the Hays Area Chamber of Commerce, please accept this letter as support for Ellis County's application for Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) discretionary grant funding for the Northwest Business Corridor project. We believe this venture would provide several advantages to our community, including the safety of our area employees and visitors as well as provide better access to federal highways for businesses served near the corridor.

Since we serve as a regional hub for Northwest Kansas, the amount of traffic in this area is extensive. It is particularly important to the Hays Area Chamber that we continuously seek development opportunities, and this business corridor will provide many options for existing entities as well as the traveling public. Community leaders, such as yourself, have worked diligently in identifying a solution that will address development, safety and access issues, and we believe the proposed corridor is an innovative answer.

We recognize that the BUILD program is an important factor in making this project a reality. Please include this letter of support with your grant application. Our hope is that the U.S. Department of Transportation will give strong consideration of this BUILD application request and agree this project is worthy of financial support.

Sincerely,

Tammy Wellbrock President/CEO

Jammy Wellbrock