

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 15, 2020

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

Dear Secretary Chao,

We are writing to express our support for Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority's (AIDEA) application to the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grants program. The funds will be used to construct a cargo and cold storage warehouse at the Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport (ANC). This project will enhance ANC shipping infrastructure, improve Alaska's supply chain security, and create jobs for Alaskans.

As recently as April, ANC was recorded as the world's busiest airport, and as such, ANC plays a significant role in the air cargo trade between the United States and Asia. ANC serves as a critical fueling station for cargo freighters that cannot fly from Asia to airports in the continental U.S. without sacrificing payload to carry additional fuel. Despite the fact that two-thirds of cargo freighters and half of total cargo flown between the U.S. and Asia is transported through Anchorage, the vast majority of this is "transit" cargo and never leaves the aircraft.

To promote the transformation of ANC from a "gas and go" airport to a cargo transfer hub and distribution nexus, the project will be to construct an approximately 725,000-square-foot air cargo and cold storage warehouse at ANC. The facility would support cold, warm, and general cargo storage warehouse operations. Space in this facility would be leased to third-party customers, including freight forwarders and cargo carriers.

In addition to enhancing ANC's position a premier air cargo hub, a cold storage facility will provide vital long-term supply chain security. Alaska is exceptionally vulnerable to supply chain disruptions due to its geographic isolation and limited in-state cold storage space. Further, Alaska's unique climatic conditions demand that there be climate-controlled storage at ANC to prevent spoilage or damage to temperature-sensitive goods.

Consistent with applicable law, policy, and guidance, we respectfully ask that you give due consideration to AIDEA's FY20 BUILD application and all Alaskan grant applications. We ask that you keep our offices apprised on the outcome of the application.

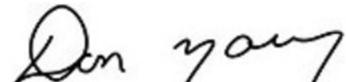
Sincerely,



LISA MURKOWSKI
United States Senator



DAN SULLIVAN
United States Senator



DON YOUNG
Congressman for All Alaska