



**Board of County Commissioners**

970-328-8605

970-328-8629(f)

[eagleadmin@eaglecounty.us](mailto:eagleadmin@eaglecounty.us)

[www.eaglecounty.us](http://www.eaglecounty.us)

July 14, 2019

The Honorable Elaine Chao  
Secretary, US Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Roaring Fork Transportation Authority (RFTA) FY19 BUILD grant application

Dear Secretary Chao:

The Eagle County Board of Commissioners supports RFTA's FY2019 BUILD grant proposal to construct a Regional Transit Center (RTC) in Glenwood Springs, Colorado, providing transit service in Eagle County, as well as Garfield and Pitkin Counties.

RFTA provides over 5 million transit trips per year, mostly for work-related purposes. The VelociRFTA Bus Rapid Transit system, initiated in 2013, operates along the 40-mile State Highway 82 corridor between Aspen and Glenwood Springs, intersecting Garfield, Eagle and Pitkin Counties. During peak commuting hours, passengers enjoy 10-minute service intervals or better, and often reach their destination faster than they would in a private automobile.

As population and employment increase, RFTA anticipates that ridership will increase at least 25% over the next twenty years. This Regional Transit Center will be needed to address the expansion of RFTA's fleet, and maintenance of technologically-advanced and diverse transit buses.

The RTC project fully aligns with the BUILD Program's goal to invest in infrastructure that will make a positive impact throughout the country, particularly in rural areas. We urge the USDOT to award BUILD grant funding for this worthy proposal.

Sincerely,

**Eagle County Board of Commissioners**

Jeanne McQueeney  
Chair

Kathy Chandler-Henry  
Commissioner

Matt Scherr  
Commissioner