



RUSSELL MAIN STREET, INC.

Tuesday April 28, 2020

Re: BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant Program

The Dear Secretary Choa:

Russell Main Street, Inc. has been informed the City of Russell, Kansas is applying for the BUILD Grant. On behalf of Russell Main Street, Inc. I am in support of the grant application for transportation infrastructure improvements by the City of Russell, Kansas. The need for improvements of streets and sidewalks in the City of Russell is evident throughout the entire community due to sidewalks and streets falling into major disrepair.

Russell Main Street, Inc. is an organization dedicated to Downtown Russell as well as the community. We strive to support a healthy environment for our community and our visitors. The walk-ability of Russell specifically Downtown Russell is currently very poor. We currently are dealing with extremely long crosswalks in Downtown Russell, which put pedestrians at risk while crossing the street. Downtown is used as a corridor for many events; it also is utilized by many children walking to and from school, the public library, parks, etc. The BUILD grant would allow for our community to reduce the potential risk for pedestrians by revamping the crosswalks to provide a shorter distance for pedestrians to cross and increase visibility for vehicle operators. Additionally, the BUILD Grant would allow the City of Russell to create multiple modes of safe transportation for our community members to access businesses, governmental services, medical services, etc.

In changing times, we have just begun to understand the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. We know the community needs will be even more urgent and critical as we try to recover from not only the human toll but the economic tsunami that has hit. The BUILD Grant will be even more necessary and impactful as we make necessary improvements, while also bringing new hope to our community. Feel free to let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you for your consideration,

Krista Whitmer
Executive Director
Russell Main St, Inc.

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Russell Main Street, Inc. is dedicated to the renovation, economic growth, business recruitment and retention, and maintenance of a vibrant downtown district.