



**Richard A. Hernandez**  
Senior Vice President  
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## Marathon Petroleum Company LP

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The Honorable Elaine Chao  
Secretary of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey, Avenue, S.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,


I am writing in support of the proposed expansion of US Highway 30/Lincoln Highway, east of Canton in Stark County, from Trump Avenue to State Route 44. This improvement project is a vital step in improving and promoting highway safety, fostering local economic growth and enhancing the safe, reliable transportation of the fuels that power America.

This expansion is proposed by the Regional Transportation Improvement Project (RTIP), a public agency serving Carroll, Columbiana and Stark Counties, Ohio, for funding under the U.S. Department of Transportation's Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) program. The impact of this project will help drive economic development for all of eastern Ohio. An easily accessible thoroughway allows the goods and services of our region to move at the speed of business, providing access to broader markets.

Additionally, the expansion of US Highway 30/Lincoln Highway east of Canton will significantly improve safety for the transportation of petroleum products that are in demand on the east coast. This includes increased access to the Port of Wellsville, facilitating cargo movement on the Ohio River. An upgraded transportation route ensures that roads are prepared and equipped to handle the increased traffic in all weather conditions for Marathon transportation truck drivers. It also eliminates truck traffic from existing roads that are not designed to handle these types and volumes of vehicles. This RTIP project is a true benefit for public safety.

I appreciate your consideration of support for this vital project. Marathon Petroleum is committed to enhancing the communities we serve, and the proposed expansion of US 30/Lincoln Highway would be a significant improvement for all who live and work in our region.

Sincerely,

  
Richard A. Hernandez  
Senior Vice President  
Eastern Refining Operations