



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

May 27, 2026

Secretary Sean Duffy
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590
United States

Dear Secretary Duffy,

I am writing to express my support for the Lake County's application for the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Implementation Grant. This application seeks to advance priority safety countermeasures that address evident and documented crash patterns and reduce the risk of fatal and serious injury crashes for all roadway users.

Lake County is seeking \$23,394,985 (including a local match of \$4,678,997) in federal assistance to address CR 561 and CR44, which are ranked as the highest-priority County-owned corridors based on several criteria, including crash severity and frequency and their location in underserved communities. The corridors' ranking underscores their critical importance for near-term safety investment.

The proposed projects are expected to result in a statistical reduction in traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries within the two project areas and across the broader Lake County roadway network. For CR 561, expected safety outcomes include reductions in roadway departure, head-on, and nighttime crashes through the installation of centerline and shoulder rumble strips, widened paved shoulders, safety edge treatments, and enhanced pavement markings, which improve driver awareness and recovery opportunities. For CR 44, expected outcomes focus on reducing pedestrian, angle, and left turn crashes in a dense urban corridor. Key safety benefits will result from lane reconfiguration and installation of two-way left-turn lanes or raised medians, which reduce conflict points and improve access management.

Both CR 561 and CR 44 are currently in the planning and preliminary engineering phases, with conceptual countermeasures identified through Lake County's adopted CSAP and supporting corridor analyses. The proposed improvements primarily consist of operational and safety enhancements within existing roadway corridors, including striping modifications, signal upgrades, lighting, and minor geometric improvements. Both projects are anticipated to qualify for a Categorical Exclusion (CE) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), subject to confirmation during the project development phase.

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Advancing this project will greatly enhance transportation safety and the overall quality of life for both residents and visitors of Lake County. I appreciate your consideration of this application by Lake County, consistent with all applicable rules, regulations, and statutes. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can answer any questions or provide additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Randy Fine". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent "R" and "F".

Randy Fine
Representative, FL - 06