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August 16, 2019

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

Re: Arizona Department of Transportation/Competitive Highway Bridge Program

Dear Secretary Chao,

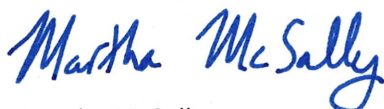
I write in support of the application submitted by the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) for \$14,230,000 in funds under the FY 2018 Competitive Highway Bridge Program. ADOT has identified four bridges along US 191 in need of rehabilitation, repair, or replacement. The project is located entirely within the Navajo Nation in Northern Arizona and aims to improve the infrastructure along the reservation's principle route. In a resolution of the 23rd Navajo Nation Council, the Council expressed their support for this proposal.

These four bridges provide access to some of the country's most scenic and well-known landscapes, including Canyon de Chelly National Monument. This portion of US 191, classified by ADOT as a Rural Major Collector, is critical to the interconnection of schools, healthcare, Navajo Chapters, and businesses. The only available alternative in the event of a bridge closure is a 232 mile detour – an impractical burden for rural residents.

As part of this proposal, ADOT estimates \$2.5 million in cost savings through the bundling of multiple bridge projects. I support ADOT's efforts to address these repairs systematically and efficiently.

Thank you for your review of this important project for Arizona. I ask that you give this request full and fair consideration.

Sincerely,



Martha McSally
United States Senator