

# Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization



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July 17, 2018

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

RE: Letter of Support – Proposed Heartland Port of Central Missouri Planning Study

Dear Secretary Chao,

The Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) is the designated metropolitan planning organization for the Jefferson City, Missouri region. CAMPO supports the pursuit of funding for a planning study for the development of the Heartland Port of Central Missouri. Improvements in the regional transportation system, including multimodal distribution and shipments of goods via rail, riverway, and roadways are vital to the growth and sustainability of the area.

This project is identified as a need in the CAMPO Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2013-2035, the long range transportation plan for the Jefferson City region. The plan states that *“CAMPO advocates for a regional intermodal facility, possibly but not necessarily along the current rail lines, to incorporate truck, rail, and river freight storage and transfer facilities, outside the developed urban areas. CAMPO should advocate for a regional comprehensive intermodal freight and passenger plan.”*

The project is also supported by CAMPO’s primary goal of *“Infrastructure support for community health and economic growth”* and meets the CAMPO objectives of *“Identification and support of activities that encourage economic development”* and *“Improve freight, multimodal and intermodal movement.”*

In conclusion, CAMPO supports the efforts of the City of Jefferson, Cole and Callaway Counties, and the Jefferson City Chamber of Commerce as they seek funding to meet the aforementioned objectives.

The addition of the inland port would advance the transportation needs and economic growth of the CAMPO region by efficiently increasing the ability of businesses to connect to worldwide trading markets.

Sincerely,

Sonny Sanders, AICP  
Administrator, Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization