

VanWall EQUIPMENT

May 8, 2020

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary of Transportation
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Support for the City of Oskaloosa's **Oskaloosa Bypass Planning Study** BUILD Grant Application

Dear Secretary Chao:

Van Wall Equipment is the Oskaloosa, Iowa area John Deere Agriculture Equipment Dealer. Van Wall purchased Drost Equipment 6 years ago after Drost Equipment had been in business for 40 years.

This Bypass around the south side of Oskaloosa would be a great benefit to our company and the safety of many who use the streets and highways. Presently, the only choice we have to deliver wide, tall, and large equipment to the south and west areas of our trade territory is on city streets and highways through the center of town, where the equipment requires both lanes of a 4 lane highway, which slows traffic.

This proposed Bypass would be within 1 mile of our location and would be utilized by our company to keep our employees and the other traffic safe. We would also use this access to the highway system in order to reach our customers to the north after the new Highway 63 Bypass is completed (on Iowa DOT 5-year plan).

Thank you for your consideration,



Don Van Houweling , Owner and General Manager Van Wall Equipment
Carl G. Drost (former owner of Drost Equipment)



JOHN DEERE