

March 5, 2026

The Honorable Michael Guest
U.S. House of Representatives
450 Cannon HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Guest,

I am writing to express our strong support for Rankin County's Pearl-Brandon Connector Segment, a top transportation priority for the County and an important regional mobility initiative for Central Mississippi. This project represents a critical component of the broader interconnectivity system that will enhance access, improve safety, and strengthen economic competitiveness across the region.

The Pearl-Brandon Connector Segment will establish a vital new link between Orleans Way in Brandon and Sweet Home Church Road in Pearl, providing direct access from MS Highway 18 to MS Highway 475. This improved connection will significantly benefit thousands of commuters who rely on these routes daily and will help alleviate longstanding congestion issues that have impacted safety, travel times, and overall system reliability throughout the Pearl and Brandon communities.

This project is also directly tied to Ergon's planned mixed-use development in the corridor. The Pearl-Brandon Connector will provide the necessary infrastructure to support this investment and will help unlock additional economic and real estate development opportunities across more than a thousand acres along the corridor.

Beyond supporting private investment, the connector will also improve orderly access to and utilization of Interstate 20 through improvements to the three impacted interchanges. The interconnected system will provide regional benefits to commuters traveling throughout Rankin County by improving safety, reducing congestion, and accelerating economic growth in the surrounding communities.

Ergon appreciates your continued support for infrastructure investments that strengthen our region's transportation network and economic future. Thank you for your consideration and your service.

Sincerely,


Kris Patrick
President & CEO





JAKE WINDHAM
MAYOR

KELLY SCOUTEN
CITY CLERK

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CASEY FOY - District 4
DWIGHT KNIGHT - District 5
KYLE FOSTER - District 6

The Honorable Michael Guest
U.S. House of Representatives
450 Cannon HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Guest,

I am writing to express my support for Rankin County's Pearl-Brandon Connector Segment, a top transportation priority for the County and an important regional mobility initiative for Central Mississippi. This segment represents a major component of the broader interconnectivity system that will ultimately enhance access, safety, and economic competitiveness across the region.

The Pearl-Brandon Connector Segment will establish a vital new link between Orleans Way in Brandon and Sweet Home Church Road in Pearl, providing direct access from MS Highway 18 to MS Highway 475. This improved access will significantly benefit thousands of commuters who rely on these routes daily and will relieve longstanding congestion issues that have impacted safety, travel times, and system reliability throughout Pearl and Brandon.

Project Description:

Element C / Pearl Brandon Connector Segment. A segment connecting Orleans Way in Brandon to Sweet Home Church Road in Pearl, providing direct access from MS HWY 18 to MS HWY 475. In addition to supporting the \$100 million Ergon mixed-use development, the connector will advance economic and real-estate development potential for an additional thousand acres along the corridor.

In addition to improving orderly access to and utilization of I-20 through improvements to the three impacted interchanges, the interconnected system will provide regional benefits to thousands of commuters traveling from communities throughout Rankin County, including improved safety and congestion relief, as well as hastening economic development.

Thank you for your consideration and your service.

Sincerely,



March 5, 2026

Congressman Michael Guest
United States House of Representatives
Washington D.C. Office
450 Cannon HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Element C / Pearl - Brandon Connector Segment

Dear Congressman Guest:

Thank you for your strong leadership in Congress and for your continued service to the State of Mississippi and our nation. I am writing to express our support for Rankin County's Pearl-Brandon Connector Segment, a top transportation priority for the County and an important regional mobility initiative for Central Mississippi. This segment represents a major component of the broader interconnectivity system that will ultimately enhance access, safety, and economic competitiveness across the region. This transportation investment also opens up new opportunities for economic development growth in key sectors for Rankin County.

The Pearl-Brandon Connector Segment will establish a vital new link between Orleans Way in Brandon and Sweet Home Church Road in Pearl, providing direct access from MS Highway 18 to MS Highway 475. This improved access will significantly benefit thousands of commuters who rely on these routes daily and will relieve longstanding congestion issues that have impacted safety, travel times, and system reliability throughout Pearl and Brandon.

Project Description:

Element C / Pearl Brandon Connector Segment. A segment connecting Orleans Way in Brandon to Sweet Home Church Road in Pearl, providing direct access from MS HWY 18 to MS HWY 475. In addition to supporting the \$100 million Ergon mixed-use development, the connector will advance economic and real-estate development potential for an additional thousand acres along the corridor.

In addition to improving orderly access to and utilization of U.S Interstate 20 through improvements to the three impacted interchanges, the interconnected system will provide regional benefits to thousands of commuters traveling from communities throughout Rankin County, including improved safety and congestion relief, as well as hastening economic development.

Thank you for considering Rankin County's Pearl / Brandon Connector Loop request application for funding for this important project. Rankin First offers its full and strong support for this request. If you



have any questions or would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 601-825-5335 or via email at GWright@RankinFirst.com

Sincerely,

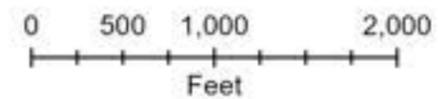
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Garrett Wright". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Garrett Wright
Executive Director
Rankin First



Pearl Brandon Connector | Rankin County I-20 Connector Loop

March 2026



**PEARL BRANDON CONNECTOR - RANKIN COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**



Preliminary Opinion of Probable Project Cost: Pearl Brandon Connector

Item No.	Description	Unit Cost
001	SUBTOTAL CONSTRUCTION	\$ 58,000,000.00
002	CONSTRUCTION CONTINGENCY (15%)	\$ 8,700,000.00
003	ROW ACQUISITION	\$ 1,500,000.00
004	PRE-CONSTRUCTION DESIGN PHASE SERVICES	\$ 3,000,000.00
005	CONSTRUCTION PHASE SERVICES	\$ 3,000,000.00
	ESTIMATED TOTAL CONSTRUCTION	\$ 74,200,000.00