

SHERROD BROWN

OHIO

COMMITTEES:

AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,
AND FORESTRY

BANKING, HOUSING,
AND URBAN AFFAIRS

FINANCE

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510 – 3505

October 10, 2023

Secretary Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I write to draw your attention to the application for the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Planning grant program submitted by the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA), in partnership with the City of Columbus, Ohio.

COTA and the City of Columbus are seeking support to enhance planning for transit-oriented development in the LinkUS West Broad Street Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Corridor. With support by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), COTA and the City of Columbus would complete a capacity, economic and market analysis to determine positioning of each transit stop along the proposed BRT corridor.

The West Broad Street BRT Corridor is a part of Central Ohio's comprehensive transportation initiative to address growth and mobility, called LinkUS. With federal funding, the Pilot Program for TOD Planning, COTA and the City will study economic and market analysis to determine strategic placement of transit stops and increase multi-modal accessibility, while enabling walkable neighborhoods with more affordable housing units. The proposed study would also ensure equitable access to transit and minimize displacement. Better planning for transit-oriented development in the West Broad corridor will be the first step in ensuring the LinkUS program will position Central Ohio's transit design to meet the broad scope of projected needs of its residents.

As you consider applications for the Pilot Program for TOD Planning grant program, I ask that you give full and fair consideration to the application from COTA and the City of Columbus. Please keep my office updated on the status of this application.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator