

Tim Schaffer State Senator 20th District Ohio Senate Senate Building Room 128, First Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215 (614) 466-8076 sd20@ohiosenate.gov **Committees:** 

Agriculture & Natural Resources, Chair General Government Budget, Chair Government Oversight and Reform Insurance Joint Committee on Force Accounts Transportation

June 4, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigleg U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E. Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I would like to express my support for the joint City of Columbus and Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) INFRA grant application for Phase 4 of the Columbus Crossroads project.

Columbus Crossroads is an important project in the Greater Central Ohio area that impacts residents and commuters well beyond the city limits of Columbus, Ohio. This is a massive, multi-phase project that is a significant investment from the City of Columbus and the State of Ohio at \$1.3 billion with Phase 4 being estimated to cost approximately \$230 million. These dollars will go toward the physical overlap of I-70 and I-71 focusing on the freeway mainline, but will also improve surrounding surface streets and the bridges spanning nearby.

The Columbus Crossroads project will make significant improvements to the I-70/I-71 corridors and is one of the major and key Interstate Highway corridors in the state of Ohio. There are many commuters from several parts of my district that are directly impacted by this project and may benefit from the Phase 4 project being fully funded and completed in a timely manner.

Therefore, I hope that you will give the City of Columbus and ODOT INFRA application full and fair consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Tim Schaffer State Senator

20<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Tim Schaffer