



February 28, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

We write to draw attention to the raise grant submission by the City of Heath Ohio. The grant would help with the improvements to infrastructure in the Thornwood Dr. corridor.

Thornwood Dr. is an extremely important north / south connector road between the Heath and Hebron Ohio industrial parks on Rt. 79 and the City of Newark Ohio. Primarily to provide more efficient access to Rt. 16, being an east / west multi lane highway connecting Columbus Ohio through New Albany and the ongoing development of the Intel site, through Newark and connecting to I-77 in eastern Ohio.

The current roadway is two lanes and crosses several hundred acres of industrial zoned land. We have owned a 107-acre rail served parcel for more than 40 years on Thornwood Dr. and believe it is now time for it to be developed into industrial space as central Ohio continues to expand in this direction.

We are confident this continued commercial development will bring many new jobs to the area. By improving Thornwood Dr. and connecting Rt's 79 and 16, we believe the safety in regards to increased truck traffic as well as automobile traffic, would be greatly enhanced.

In closing, we ask the City of Heath Ohio's raise grant be given full and fair consideration for funding in 2023.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patrick Murphy".

Patrick Murphy
Mid-Ohio Development Corporation
Sr. Vice President