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WASHINGTON, DC 20510 - 3505

March 16, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As you consider applications for the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program, I write to bring your attention to the application submitted by the City of Columbus, Ohio, and the Franklin County Engineer's Office, with support of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Organization.

The City of Columbus seeks federal support to develop a consistent corridor plan for the Williams Road Corridor. The corridor is host to a diverse set of land uses, including multiple atgrade crossings, without any bicycle or pedestrian facilities. The corridor also includes opportunity zones for housing redevelopment, areas of persistent poverty, and a historically disadvantaged census tract. With federal support, the city of Columbus and Franklin County Engineer's office proposes to revitalize transportation services for a community that has long been in need of improvements.

Although the project was ultimately not awarded funding during the Fiscal Year 2022 round, this corridor project was named a Project of Merit by the Department of Transportation. The City of Columbus aims to begin developing solutions for a community with significant challenges with federal support dollars.

As you evaluate applications for the RAISE Grant Program, please consider the positive impact this proposal could have in building more resilient and connected communities. I ask that you give your full and fair consideration to this request, and keep my office informed of the status of this application.

Sincerely,

Sherrod Brown United States Senator