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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
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MODERNIZATION OF CONGRESS

July 9, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,


I am proud to support the application submitted by the City of Bloomington, IL for the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program to fund the Hamilton Road East-West Connection Project. The project is a multi-modal connection of Hamilton Road from Bunn Street to Commerce Parkway and is for the final stretch of a 7.2-mile east-west transportation improvement project providing safer, easier roadway travel.

Bloomington sits at the crossroads of three major interstate corridors, connecting with Indianapolis and the Quad Cities on Interstate 74, Chicago to St. Louis on Interstate 55, and Interstate 39 to Madison, Wisconsin. Along with its twin city of Normal it is home to major employers including State Farm Insurance, Illinois State University, Country Financial and Rivian Automotive.

This project will boost economic development opportunities in the project area, resulting in new private investment in multiple vacant in-fill development sites. It will also increase customer traffic and sales at existing businesses along the Hamilton Road Corridor. The project incorporates pedestrian and bicycle routing for transportation and recreation via the Constitution Trail. Connect Transit, the local transit agency, will also have the ability to improve services to the local U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs clinic. Subsurface the City also plans to install new water main and water main looping along sections of the project. Additionally, it is estimated the project will contribute to the reduction of air pollution and carbon emissions as traffic volumes decrease by approximately 7 to 15 percent in the target area.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project, and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,



Rodney Davis
Member of Congress