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AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2403

April 8, 2022

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing in support of the application submitted by the City of Pearl, Mississippi, and the Pearl-Richland Intermodal Connector Commission for a Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Planning Grant.

This funding would support preparations for Phase II of the Pearl/Richland Intermodal Connector, which is a comprehensive upgrade of important freight routes in these communities. The project is expected to improve rail-truck transfers, reduce traffic, provide connectivity to two low-income community Opportunity Zones, and increase safety along the Interstate-20/Kansas City Southern and U.S. 49/Canadian National corridors near the capital city of Jackson. The first phase of the effort is currently underway with an expected completion date of summer 2023. This initial, \$16.18 million investment includes an expansion of a portion of South Pearson Road to five lanes, as well as the construction of a bridge over the Kansas City Southern railroad. The RAISE Planning Grant funding requested would support design, environmental, and other preparations for the second phase of the project, which would continue the four-lane expansion of Pearson Road for another 1.9 miles and would construct a new four-lane road connecting to U.S. Highway 49.

Thank you for your consideration of the Pearl-Richland Intermodal Connector Phase II planning project, consistent with applicable rules and regulations. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Michael Guest
Member of Congress

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