

July 14, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing to express my support for the U.S. Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Planning Grant application as submitted by the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC).

Serving the counties of Lake, Porter, and La Porte, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) has played a critical role in furthering the region's economic progress. If awarded, they will use this grant funding to complete the Marquette Greenway, a 60 mile trail connecting South Chicago, Illinois to New Buffalo, Michigan.

The project will allow 55 miles of trail to pass through three Indiana counties: Lake County, Porter County, and La Porte County. The project's completion will directly benefit a local population of 130,000 residents, and provide interconnections throughout the Chicagoland region. Trails have proven to be a significant factor in improving quality of life, benefiting community health, and spurring economic development. The completion of the Marquette Greenway will improve the vitality of Northwest Indiana's economy and way of life.

I ask that you give this request thorough and just consideration, within all applicable laws and regulations, for the RAISE Planning Grant application submitted by NIRPC. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request and your efforts to improve America's transportation network.

In service,



Todd Young  
United States Senator