



45 South Main Street | Concord, NH 03301
1-866-542-8168 (toll free) | Fax: 1-603-224-6211
aarp.org/nh | nh@aarp.org | twitter: @aarpnh
facebook.com/nh

May 26, 2021

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to convey the support of AARP New Hampshire for an application being submitted by the City of Manchester, New Hampshire ("the City") for a FY 2021 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant for the South Millyard area of the City.

AARP New Hampshire is dedicated to the creation of livable communities throughout the Granite State. We define these as great places to live for people of all ages (whether they be 8 or 80). AARP continues to support work in (and with) the City that helps create a strong sense of place / community and one that makes the built environment one that is more welcoming and navigable and, consequently, more livable. And we have funded work in this geographic area of Manchester before. Our work with livable communities involves eight "domains" of livability. Here in New Hampshire (as elsewhere in the United States) two of the eight livability domains provide substantial challenges. One vexing domain is community housing and the other is transportation. The City's BUILD grant application will help make Manchester more livable and more age friendly by squarely addressing transportation. Transportation (generally) is a key element of livability and intermodal connectivity (specifically) is an important element to include to address overall community transportation needs to make a place more age friendly and more livable. Because the project anticipated by the City's application advances these objectives, we support it.

The RAISE grant will provide a transformative opportunity for investment in intermodal connectivity for the movement of people and goods at the center of Manchester, with positive effects rippling throughout the city and Central New Hampshire region. Over the past ten years, the South Millyard has evolved from its historic use as an area of heavy industry with supporting rail corridors to an area of vibrant mixed uses including



