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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

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June 7, 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 my support of an application being submitted by the City of Manchester, NH for a FY 2021 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE). This grant would directly and positively impact the South Millyard area of Manchester and I ask that you take this application into thoughtful consideration.

This RAISE grant project serves a dual purpose for the City of Manchester and surrounding communities by investing in intermodal connectivity, as well as spurring economic growth. By increasing mobility and connectivity of the South Millyard, the City of Manchester hopes to bring an underdeveloped area of the city to its highest potential. Over the past ten years, the South Millyard has begun evolving into a vibrant mixed-use area. However, ongoing growth in this part of the city is currently inhibited by an outdated and disconnected transportation network.

According to the City of Manchester, this RAISE grant project will specifically help with the following items:

- Increasing the flow of workers, residents, goods, and services and mitigating extreme congestion by creating new connections to the existing street network and highway system at multiple points to and from the South Millyard
- Providing increased transportation choices and safety by improving pedestrian and bicycle connectivity, accessibility, comfort, and safety
- Creating a completely new multi-modal transportation corridor by repurposing the disused Boston and Maine rail bed
- Creating the opportunity for the establishment of the Multi-Modal Transportation Hub in a central location to serve travelers using multiple types of transportation to major locations in the city such as the baseball stadium, education institutions, economic district, and residences.
- Creating development opportunities for infill development of multi-use buildings including offices, manufacturing, housing, and dynamic regional attractions. Over 30% of the households in neighborhoods surrounding this project do not have access to a car. They rely solely on walking, cycling, and public transportation.

- Providing access to land that can potentially be redeveloped into over 800 housing units for all income levels and alleviating the city's shortage of available and affordable housing units.
- Improving a major gateway intersection at Queen City Avenue/Cilley Road/South Willow Street

Manchester is New Hampshire's largest city, home to the largest airport in Northern New England, and a cultural and economic hub for surrounding communities. This RAISE grant project will serve the city, its residents, and those in surrounding communities, and I support Manchester's application without reservation and ask that you give it due consideration. Please contact Kari Thurman in my office at (603) 935-6710 if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Pappas". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Chris Pappas
Member of Congress

CC: City of Manchester Department of Public Works