

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4805

June 10, 2022

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I write in regards to the West Virginia Department of Transportation's (WVDOT) application for funding through the Department of Transportation's RAISE program. Funding would support the Wheeling REvitalized NEtwork for Walking, Accessibility & Livability (RENEWAL) project, and I am in support of their application.

As the Ranking Member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, I am proud to have spearheaded bipartisan legislation that will directly invest in our nation's infrastructure needs. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will provide transformational support to our communities, and I am happy to see the positive effects this legislation is already having in West Virginia.

Should funding be awarded, the Wheeling RENEWAL will complete 1.85 miles of Complete Street upgrades to enhance pedestrian safety and accessibility, and foster more robust downtown revitalization in a prime yet struggling Opportunity Zone. As one of the fastest growing regions in our state, it is vital that we support infrastructure improvements that will increase quality of life and support further economic development.

As a predominantly rural state, it is critical that our roads are in good condition. This project will increase travel access through road improvements, while also investing in important alternative methods of transportation, including bicycle and pedestrian transportation.

I firmly believe that West Virginia's brightest days are ahead of us. I am proud to see WVDOT directly investing in the future of our state, and our fellow Mountaineers. I remain a committed partner to our federal, state, and local entities, working in West Virginia, and I hope you will give their application your full consideration.

Sincerely,



Shelley Moore Capito
United States Senator