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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

Courtney Taylor, *Democratic Staff Director*  
Adam Tomlinson, *Republican Staff Director*

August 15, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I write to convey my support for the West Virginia Department of Transportation Division of Highways (WVDOH) application for U.S. Department of Transportation PROTECT grant funding for the Protecting Main Street Project in Richwood, WV. The community remains vulnerable to flooding, being hardest hit in 2016 after nine inches of rain resulted in the loss of public infrastructure, schools, and homes. This project aims to improve the resilience of Richwood's main evacuation route, along WV 39 (Main Street) which becomes impassable during 100-year storm events and restricts access to emergency services. This project will raise 1,300 feet of Main Street approximately 7 feet and outside the 100-year floodplain.

I support WVDOH's mission of providing safe and efficient transportation and believe that this climate resilience project will reduce our vulnerable community's risk during flooding events of the Cherry River which severely impact the economy and access to services in our community. Richwood's consequential history of flooding has caused devastation to West Virginian families, institutions, and the community. As Ranking Member of Environment and Public Works Committee I realize the importance of keeping our state's security and our way of life in West Virginia. I support this project which will protect against future flooding in the Richwood area.

Thank you for your consideration of this important infrastructure project in Richwood, West Virginia.

Sincerely,



Shelley Moore Capito  
Ranking Member Environment and Public Works  
United States Senate