

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4805

March 19, 2024

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

I am writing in support of the West Virginia University Institute of Technology's (WVU Tech) application for federal funding through the Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program for the WVU Tech's Complete Streets Improvement Project located on South Kanawha Street (WV-210) in Beckley, WV.

Approving this project would allow WVU Tech to use Complete Streets to implement traffic calming measures including a road diet to make South Kanawha Street and Johnstown Road/Beaver Avenue into a mini-roundabout, while also adding highly-visible crosswalks along the road.

The benefits of this project are numerous. This would increase accessibility for non-motor vehicles by transforming the southbound lane into a bidirectional, two-lane dedicated bicycle lane that will be divided by a median from oncoming traffic. Additionally, Minnesota Avenue will be connected to Beaver Avenue in order to be converted into a one-way to carry southbound traffic. Finally, the necessary moving of utility poles, sidewalk obstructions, and streetscaping will allow for solar powered LED streetlights, benches, bike racks, native plantings, and trash receptacles to be added along the University District.

West Virginia's best days are ahead of us, and every investment made in our state brings us closer to the shared goal of uplifting Mountaineers everywhere. I am proud to see the WVU Tech directly investing in the future of the Beckley area, and I remain a committed partner to our federal, state, and local entities working in West Virginia. I hope you will give this application your full consideration, as you consider recipients for this year's RAISE program.

Sincerely,



Shelley Moore Capito  
United States Senator