

(Agency Letter Head)

DATE

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
United States Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue. SE
Washington D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

(Business Name) is/are excited to relay support for the recently submitted R.A.I.S.E. grant application by the City of Jonesboro, Arkansas. The proposed ONE Jonesboro Connectivity Trail System will be a cornerstone for the economic activity and development, not just for the City of Jonesboro, but for the region as well. The system plan will not only help to revitalize areas along its route, but will also provide a safe place for children, seniors, and families to exercise via non- vehicular transportation.

Multiple areas the system would traverse are low-income tracts that struggle to develop due to historic drainage issues, lack of connectivity, or access to pedestrian mobility. This plan would be a catalyst to lift these areas up while extending broadband access along the route, providing a basis for future expansion.

The ONE Jonesboro plan is more than a redevelopment effort; it is a major public safety investment for residents and more than 10,000 students at Arkansas State University, the largest university in Northeast Arkansas. Jonesboro currently lacks non-motorized transit infrastructure and there is no direct connection to Arkansas State University due to railroads bordering the campus to the west and south. The pathway would include a direct connection with downtown Jonesboro via a system centerpiece elevated flyover crossing to provide a safe exchange over multiply sets of active railroad tracks. This system centerpiece will serve as a Veterans Crossing memorial that will display area veteran's names and provide educational plaques for pedestrians to view.

This is a vital piece of infrastructure with a Benefit Cost Analysis of more than \$403 million over a 20-year period for Jonesboro. I urge the United States Department of Transportation approve the ONE Jonesboro \$20 million transportation grant, which will support economic development, education, healthcare, connectivity, flood mitigation and public safety.

Sincerely,
(YOUR NAME AND AGENCY)