

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 11, 2022

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I write to you regarding the City of Muscatine's application for funding through the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for their Isett Avenue Corridor Reconstruction and Renewal Project. Please give their application due consideration under all applicable rules and laws.

According to the project sponsors, the project will reconstruct approximately 1.7 miles of Isett Avenue and Cypress Street from US Highway 61 to 5th Street in Muscatine, Iowa. The proposed work will include four-lane to three-lane conversion, construction of three new roundabouts, sanitary sewer and water main replacement, raising a bridge, addition of sidewalks, extension of a multi-use trail, and streetscaping. These efforts will enable safe travel for cars, trucks, and pedestrians, as well as transforming this corridor into one that is pleasant and efficient to travel along, rather than one that is full of hazards and frustrations.

According to the project sponsors, Isett Avenue, which becomes Cypress Street at 11th Street, serves as a major connector between US Highway 61 and the downtown area, as well as linking the east and west sides of Muscatine. It is a designated truck route and carries a large load of industrial and commercial traffic to companies such as Kraft Heinz, HNI Manufacturing, and Daufeldt Transport, among several other manufacturing and logistics businesses. This type of traffic, while essential for Muscatine's economy, makes the current configuration of Isett Avenue/Cypress Street unsafe, unsustainable, and inefficient. This project seeks to address the challenges currently facing the Isett Corridor and the surrounding neighborhoods and businesses, which include a dangerous environment for pedestrians, decaying infrastructure, and intersections and lane configurations that no longer meet the corridor's needs.

For these reasons and those further described in their grant application, I would appreciate your full and fair consideration of the City of Muscatine's RAISE grant application. If you have any questions, please contact my Legislative Aide Blake Dickerson at (202) 225-6576 or at blake@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,



Mariannette Miller-Meeks, M.D.
Member of Congress