

March 8, 2023

Mr. Pete Buttigieg
Secretary of Transportation
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter of Support for the 2023 TTPSF Grant Program: North Dakota Highway 24 Fort Yates Shared Use Path Extension, Fort Yates, North Dakota

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

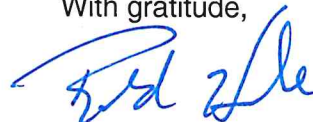
The North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) is pleased to support the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Tribal Transportation Program Safety Fund (TTPSF) grant. Due to NDDOT's support, the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) provided partial funding for the costs of this project. The Tribe intends to use TTPSF grant funding for the remainder of the costs facilitating completion of the long-planned North Dakota Highway 24 (ND 24) Fort Yates Shared Use Path Extension Project (the Project).

The Project will increase bicyclist and pedestrian safety and expand multi-modal mobility to essential destinations on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation by constructing a shared use path extension on the east side of ND 24 within existing NDDOT right-of-way. This will provide better connections to the Standing Rock Elementary, Middle, and High Schools as well as the grocery store located approximately 1.5-miles north.

The Project will provide safety benefits to Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and Fort Yates which have less vehicle access, higher poverty, and larger youth and aged populations. Therefore, safe multi-modal facilities are critical for enhanced walking and biking access to schools, local laundromat, grocery store, and other essential services on ND 24.

NDDOT supports the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's application for TTPSF funding for the ND 24 Fort Yates Shared Use Path Extension Project. With its strong safety, multi-modal, and Tribal benefits, please give this 2023 TTPSF proposal your full consideration.

With gratitude,



Ronald J. Henke, PE
Director

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