

JACKSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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December 28, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

We strongly support the South Dakota Department of Transportation's application for the grading and paving of highway SD 73 and portions of SD 248 from Kadoka at Interstate 90 to the White River. The project advances the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant's goal of funding projects that will have a significant local or regional impact.

It also addresses climate change, racial equity, and removes barriers to opportunity by improving access and connectivity to the surrounding region. The project improves mobility, connectivity, and economic competitiveness of the area by connecting it to the Interstate system. The project advances economic vitality, reduces barriers to opportunity, leverages Federal funding, attracts non-Federal investment, holds grant recipients accountable for their performance, and promotes equity by improving transportation access to Pine Ridge and Rosebud Reservations that are census designated disadvantaged areas.

This illustrates the importance of the grant and the importance of the Rural Opportunities to Use Transportation for Economic Success (ROUTES) Initiative. Thank you for any assistance you can provide in funding this grant. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact SDDOT Secretary Joel Jundt.

Sincerely,



Gerard Magelky, Chair
Jackson County Commission