

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4105

February 14, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

It has come to my attention the South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) has submitted a request for funding from the United States Department of Transportation under the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program. As a strong advocate for investing in our nation's infrastructure, I write in support of their application.

Should they receive funding, the SDDOT would reconstruct nearly ten miles of SD 73. The project would also enhance a portion of SD 248 and replace a necessary box culvert. This stretch of SD 73 is a vital link from the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation to Interstate-90. As you may know, the Oglala Lakota Nation is an area of persistent poverty and classified as a historically disadvantaged community.

Making necessary investments into our nation's infrastructure system is important to safety, job creation, and sustained economic growth in communities throughout the country. Your thorough review of their application would be greatly appreciated, and I urge you to give it every consideration. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kindest regards,



JOHN THUNE
United States Senator