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## Corson County Commissioners

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April 5, 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 application for the reconstruction and paving of US Highway 12 from Morristown east to Watauga for 9 miles by the South Dakota Department of Transportation. 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.

US 12 provides vital access to Corson County and the Standing Rock Reservation, which is a designated area of persistent poverty. It improves mobility, connectivity, and economic competitiveness of the Standing Rock Reservation and the surrounding region and advances economic vitality, reduces climate change impacts, 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 a disadvantaged area.

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,



Jacob Nehl, Chair

Corson County Commission