

February 21, 2023

Pete Buttigieg  
United States Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter of Support for the 2023 RAISE Grant Program: Bureau of Indian Affairs Route 6  
Reconstruction & Preservation (Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, North Dakota/South Dakota)

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing in support of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's application for funding through the United States Department of Transportation's Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. The RAISE funding would facilitate completion of the long-planned reconstruction and preservation (resurfacing) of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Route (BIA) 6. The Project helps to strengthen a Justice40 designated community and improve resiliency of the Tribe.

The project aligns with USDOT's strategic goals as it improves safety, environmental sustainability, quality of life, improves mobility and community connectivity, economic competitiveness and opportunity, state of good repair, partnership and collaboration, and innovation through both local and regional impacts. This project reconstructs and preserves BIA 6 to address poor pavement conditions, correct vertical curve deficiencies, improve ditch-slope, modernize signage and striping, and bring BIA 6 into a state of good repair. The project sustains access to existing transit opportunities between rural communities within the Reservation, providing critical mobility and connectivity to essential tribal resources such as emergency services, healthcare, education, higher education, and historically & culturally significant resources.

BIA 6 is a significant interregional corridor connecting several tribal and non-tribal rural communities within the Standing Rock Reservation by connecting residents and visitors to essential healthcare and educational facilities, retail/commercial destinations, and historically & culturally significant areas in Fort Yates. In line with the Tribe's economic development strategy, maintaining BIA 6 will strengthen the rural community, improve resiliency, and sustain growth on the Reservation for the next generation. BIA 6 is a major road used to get people to various work locations. As Sioux County Roads Dept. uses this road to access some of Sioux County's roads, this road also provides access between ND Highway 24 and Highway 6, as well as access to Grant County, N.D. This road also is well used by farmers and ranchers. Therefore Sioux County supports SRST in applying for funding for improvements on BIA 6.

I support the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's application for the funding of the BIA 6 Reconstruction and Preservation Project and look forward to the infrastructure investment in our region through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Please give this 2023 RAISE Discretionary Grant proposal your full consideration and if I can answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I may be reached at Sioux County Roads Dept. 9502 26 ½ Ave. Selfridge, ND 58568 701-422-3316 [smsnider@nd.gov](mailto:smsnider@nd.gov)

Sincerely,  
Steve Snider  
Road Supervisor  
Sioux County, ND