

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 6, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

This letter is to express my support for the City of San Luis, Arizona's application for \$25 Million in Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Discretionary Grant to reconstruct and modernize Cesar Chavez Boulevard which connects the San Luis I International Port of Entry to San Luis II Commercial Port of Entry. This project will modernize Cesar Chavez Boulevard from its current 2 lanes to a 4-lane divided roadway that will include a shared use path, sidewalks, signalized pedestrian crossings, street lighting, bus bays, transit stops and shelters. This project will provide a number of benefits consistent with the RAISE grant selection criteria, including:

- **Safety:** The project will create a safer environment for all modes, including cars and trucks, public transit, bicyclists, and pedestrians. Additional lanes and the introduction of a median will reduce congestion and vehicular crashes along the corridor. The project will increase safety for bicyclists and pedestrians along the corridor, including children walking to schools, local residents commuting around the City, and residents of nearby cities and towns who cross the border at the nearby international ports of entry for work, shopping and medical services.
- **Environmental Sustainability:** The project will improve Cesar Chavez Boulevard to include bike lanes and a shared use path will encourage a mode shift, as more residents and visitors will choose to leave their vehicle at home, as they walk and bicycle through town. Improved traffic conditions along the corridor will also reduce vehicular emissions and pollution in the area.
- **Economic Competitiveness:** Economic activity in San Luis is dependent upon border crossings, which exceeds 2.3 million people per year, and its support of the agricultural industry. Improving the ability of people, on both sides of the border, to access jobs and education improves the quality of life for this area of persistent poverty. Increased roadway capacity will also support continued development of the area, including industrial development that will create new jobs.

This project is consistent with the intent of the RAISE program and will support Arizona's continued economic growth and improved quality of life for its residents. I respectfully ask that you give this proposal full and fair consideration as you make this important funding decision.

Sincerely,



Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress