

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

February 27, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.  
Washington DC, 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

We write regarding the City of Douglas' application for \$22.7 million in Rebuilding America Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) funding for surface transportation improvements to commercial truck routes within the city. Federal funding will support resurfacing and upgrades to designated commercial truck routes to increase the flow of international commerce and ensure public safety.

Situated on the U.S.-Mexico border in Cochise County, Douglas is home to a population of just under 17,000 residents. This community faces economic challenges, with a median income below \$40,000 and almost a quarter of its residents living below the poverty line. This RAISE grant offers a transformative opportunity for Douglas to tackle these critical issues. By enhancing safety measures, stimulating economic growth, bolstering infrastructure sustainability, and enhancing the overall well-being of its residents, this grant will ensure Douglas' future prosperity.


The recent allocation of funding by the General Services Administration (GSA) to enhance the Raul H. Castro Port of Entry, coupled with the establishment of a new commercial port in close proximity, signifies an imminent surge in tourism and commercial traffic through these modernized ports. Thus, it is imperative that designated commercial truck routes in Douglas receive the necessary resurfacing and upgrades to accommodate the anticipated increase in traffic volume. A robust infrastructure is not only essential for public safety but also for facilitating the smooth flow of international commerce.

Investing in the City of Douglas through the RAISE grant will yield long-lasting benefits for our community, creating jobs, supporting local businesses, and enhancing residents' quality of life. In accordance with all existing agency rules, regulations, and ethical guidelines, we respectfully ask that you give this proposal full and fair consideration as you make this important funding decision. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Kyrsten Sinema  
United States Senator



Raúl M. Grijalva  
United States Representative



Mark Kelly  
United States Senator



Juan Ciscomani  
United States Representative