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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

February 26, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I strongly support the application submitted by the City of Tempe, Arizona, to the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for three interconnected projects that will improve accessibility for bicyclists and pedestrians throughout the community while connecting underserved and disadvantaged neighborhoods to employment opportunities and regional light rail service.

The City of Tempe has long been a destination for students, residents, and visitors, but it is mainly accessed by automobile. As the area around the Rio Salado River grows in residential and employment opportunities, Tempe has committed to improve and encourage walking and bicycling by expanding pedestrian and biking networks.

The RAISE grant would assist with the design and construction of a bridge across the Rio Salado Parkway, which will offer a safe route dedicated to pedestrians and bicyclists while providing a low-stress, off-street connection for users of all abilities. Additionally, the project would provide a protected bike lane and grade-separated path and expanded access to Arizona State University's Research Park. Completion of these projects will improve community and environmental resiliency and facilitate alternative transportation options in this growing area.

I strongly support the city's efforts and appreciate your full and fair consideration consistent with all applicable rules and regulations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Greg Stanton".

Greg Stanton
Member of Congress