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Congress of the United States
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February 28, 2024

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am writing to express my strong support for Valley Metro's RAISE grant application for the Rio East-Dobson Streetcar Extension (REDE).

The REDE project will expand the existing 3-mile Valley Metro Streetcar by an additional 4.35 miles and extend it from its current location in the City of Tempe into the City of Mesa. This extension will include an important multimodal connection to Valley Metro's light rail system, and it will provide a high-capacity transit option to communities that are both historically disadvantaged and are in areas of persistent poverty. The RAISE grant would provide important funding for Valley Metro to complete the design and environmental work for this project.

Light rail and streetcar have been major economic drivers and catalysts to metro Phoenix connecting residents and visitors across the Valley to jobs, schools, and other destinations. Supporting this project through the RAISE grant would not only benefit Tempe and Mesa, but the region as well as we collaborate to build a strong high-capacity transit network serving the entire Valley.

I appreciate your time and consideration of Valley Metro's REDE project, and respectfully ask that you give it full and fair consideration consistent within all existing rules and regulations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Greg Stanton".

Greg Stanton
Member of Congress