WASHINGTON, D.C. OFFICE

2186 Rayburn Building Washington, DC 20515-3509 (202) 225-4146 Fax: (202) 225-7711

OHIO OFFICES

(800) 964-4699 Fax: (419) 255-9623 http://kaptur.house.gov



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April 7, 2022

Honorable Peter Buttigieg Office of the Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation West Building, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE, 9th floor Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I am pleased to express strong support for the proposal from Erie County to the U.S. Department of Transportation for the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant. RAISE will allow Erie County to make improvements along 6.3 miles of U.S. State Route 6 and extension of the Sandusky Bay Pathway. This proposal came to fruition as a result of a 2019 U.S. 6 Corridor Study that was developed through a regional partnership between the Cities of Sandusky and Huron, as well as Perkins and Huron Township, the Ohio Department of Transportation, and the Erie County Regional Planning Commission Metropolitan Organization.

This portion of the U.S. Highway system is a critical infrastructure link, undergoing residential and commercial development in addition to significant seasonal traffic demand as it supports an \$11 billion tourism economy due to its parallel proximity to Lake Erie and the Cedar Point Amusement Park. A shared multi-use path along the corridor that transitions into the Sandusky Bay Pathway would provide for a direct connection between downtown Sandusky and the City of Huron, benefitting underserved constituents through increased safety and access to jobs, economic development opportunities, healthcare, educational centers, and tourism.

Through the support of RAISE, this proposal will provide a sensible long-term investment for our Great Lakes Region. I urge the application's favorable review consistent with your agency's rules and regulations.

Sincerely,

MARCY KAPTUR U.S. Representative