



**GUNNISON
COUNTY**

February 20, 2024

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

RE: Submittal of Application for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program

Dear Mr. Buttigieg:

I am pleased to support Gunnison County's submittal of an application for a FY24 RAISE Grant to advance design public infrastructure in Gunnison County that will make access to jobs safer and more affordable for the nearly 1,800 people who work in the tourism industry. This project is a showcase opportunity for the Biden-Harris Administration to move forward its equity agenda by focusing on the nexus of infrastructure and mobility and housing affordability.

This project combines the needs of the community, providing 255 affordable housing units, transit connectivity, safer roads through intersection improvements, community place making, and environmental improvements. Our proposal will provide the design necessary to build a roundabout, pedestrian underpass, transit stops, and link to a transit hub, all aligning with the goals of the state and federal government for equity, sustainability, quality of life, economic impact and environmental improvement.

We have the funds for the match required by this submittal. We appreciate the opportunity that this program offers for rural governments to apply for funding for projects that we do not have the financial resources to build without financial support.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Houck, Chairperson
Board of County Commissioners