

February 15, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT), I am pleased to offer my full support for the Town of Port Deposit's application for funding under the U.S. Department of Transportation Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant for the Port Deposit Resilience Planning and Project Development project. These funds will allow the Town of Port Deposit to fund critical design and environmental analysis work and prepare construction and permitting documents to implement the essential upstream stormwater management facility recommendations made by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

Port Deposit has flooded to varying degrees over the years resulting in nuisance silting in residences and businesses basements and on streets. The flooding has also resulted in washouts of culverts and small bridges as well as the destruction of historic homes and community facilities. Solutions to the flooding problems of Port Deposit have been outlined through extensive analysis by the USACE, the MDOT State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA), and the Town of Port Deposit's engineering consultants.

I urge you to favorably consider this application as it supports our important shared goals of building more resilient communities in the changing climate. I encourage you to give this project the strongest consideration as you undertake your review process.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Heather Murphy, MDOT Office of Planning and Capital Programming (OPCP) Director, at 410-865-1275 or hmurphy@mdot.maryland.gov. Ms. Murphy will be happy to assist you. Of course, you may always contact me directly.

Sincerely,



Paul J. Wiedefeld
Acting Secretary

cc: Ms. Heather Murphy, Director, OPCP, MDOT
Tim Smith, P.E., Administrator, MDOT SHA

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Page Two

bcc: Ms. Samantha Biddle, Chief of Staff, MDOT
Ms. Pilar Helm, Director, Office of Government Affairs (OGA), MDOT
Mr. R. Earl Lewis, Jr., Deputy Secretary of Policy, Planning, and Enterprise Services, MDOT
Mr. Sean Powell, Deputy Secretary of Operations and Homeland Security, MDOT
Mr. Jeffrey Stockdale, Federal Legislative Officer, OGA, MDOT